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Dixon, Keith L.

1951-1952

1. Calaveras Co., Calif., Jan. 27, 1951  
Catalog

2. Texas, Feb. 23, - May 1, 1951  
Catalog

Journal

Species accounts

3. Local and miscellaneous, Jan. 27 -  
Nov. 4, 1951

Catalog

Journal

Species accounts

4. Texas, Jan. 26 - Feb. 21, 1952

Catalog

Plant catalog

Journal

Species accounts





Dixon, K. L.

Calaveras Co., Calif

Jan. 27, 1951

Catalog nos. 467 - 468



K Dixon  
1951

Catalogue

San Antonio Cr., 2000 ft., 3/4 mi. SE Sheep Ranch, Calaveras Co., Calif.

Jan. 27

467. Triturus

lower edge of yellow pine

found crossing road

4 mi. W Angels Camp, 1300 ft., Calaveras Co., Calif.

Jan. 27

468 ♂ <sup>Testis</sup> 3mm. *Balanosphyra formicivora*

Wt. 82.2 gm.



Dixon, K.L.

Texas, Feb. 23, 1951 - May 1, 1951

Catalog nos. 469-618

Journal

Species accounts





K Dixon  
1951

Catalogue

9 mi. N W Valentine, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

February 23

469 ♀ <sup>largest</sup> ovum 3mm. Bubo virginianus pick-up grassland - yucca - mesquite

7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas

February 28

470 Sceloporus variabilis

4 mi. SE Rio Grande City, Starr Co., Texas

March 2

471 ♀ ovary 6mm. Parus atricristatus 15.5 gms.

472 ♂ Testis 3mm. " " mate of 471 17.1 gms.

473 ♀ ovary 4mm. " " 14.1 gms.  
Skel 474 ♂ testis 4mm Icterus graduacauda

475 ♀ ovary 6mm x 4mm Dendrocopos scalaris largest ovum 1mm. 34.7 gms.

9 mi. N Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas

March 13

476 ♂ Testis 4mm Parus bicolor wt. 21.2 gms.

477 ♂ Testis 6mm x 3mm Thryothorus ludovicianus wt. 20.7 gms.

478 ♀ ovary 4mm x 3mm Parus carolinensis wt. 8.8 gms.

479 ♂ Testis 9mm x 4mm " " mate of 478 wt. 10.2 gms.

~~skel~~ 480 ♂ Testis 6mm x 4mm " LOST " wt. 9.6 gms.

Bryan, Brazos Co., Texas

March 13

481 ♂ Testis 5mm Strix pick up skin + body skel.

9 mi. N Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas

March 14

482 ♀ Richmondia cardinalis wt. 36.4 gms.



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Catalogue

5 mi. N Hallettsville, Lavaca Co., Texas

March 16

skel

483 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 7x5mm Toxostoma rufum pick-up

2 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 17

484. Elaphe obsoleta pick-up

March 18

485 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 6x4mm Malothrus ater wt. 31.1 gm.  
486 ♂ <sup>Testis</sup> 3mm " " fat along neck wt. 44.0 gms  
487 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 6mm " " wt. 35.9 gms.

Aransas Creek, 5 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 18

488 ♂ <sup>Testis</sup> 2mm Poliophtila caerulea Fat wt. 5.9 gms.  
489 ♂ <sup>Testis</sup> 3mm Dendrocopos scalaris wt. 37.3 gms.

4 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 19

skel

~~490 ♂ Vireo griseus LOST~~

2 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 19

skel

491 ♂ Centurus annifrons

3 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas (live-oaks)

March 25

492 ♀ <sup>largest</sup> ovum 1.5mm Parus wt. 19.6 gms.  
493 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 5mm Vireo griseus singing 11.4 gms  
494 ♀ <sup>largest ovum</sup> 1.5mm Dendrocopos scalaris 35.1 gms.  
495 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 3mm Richmondia cardinalis singing 41.4 gms.





K Dixon  
1951

# Catalogue

## 2 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 25

496 ♂ testis 3mm Molothrus ater moderately fat crop full wt. 44.4 gms.

## 3 mi ENE Skidmore Bee Co., Texas (live oaks)

March 26

497 ♂ testis 7mm Parus wt. 19.6 gms.

## Aransas River, 4 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas March 26

498 ♂ testis 6mm Parus moderately fat wt. 20.8 gms.

499 ♂ testis 4mm Richmondia cardinalis moderately fat wt. 44.0 gms.

## 1 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 26

500 Bufo compactilis

501 [Scaphiopus couchii]

502 [Bufo compactilis]

503 " "

504 " "

## Aransas River 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

150 ft.

March 28

505 ♂ testis 5mm Vireo griseus singing wt. 10.4 gms.

506 ♀ ovary 5mm x 3mm " " male of a singing ♂ wt. 10.3 gms.

507 ♀ ~~ovary~~ largest ovum 2mm Dendrocopos scalaris wt. 32.2 gms.

508 ♂ testis 3mm Richmondia cardinalis wt. 40.9 gms.

## Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

175 ft.

509 [Scaphiopus] March 28 frog, pick-up, mummified

510 ♀ ovary 4mm x 2mm Parus wt. 15.4 gms.

511 ♂ testis 6mm " male of 510 17.8 "

512 ♂ testis 5mm Vireo griseus 10.0 gm

513 ♂ testis 7mm x 3mm Dendrocopos scalaris 38.5 gms



K Dixon  
1951

# Catalogue

Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

175 ft.

March 30

- 514 ♂ Testis 5mm. Parus unmated liveoaks wt. 18.2 gms  
515 ♂ Testis 6mm " liveoaks wt. 19.1 gms  
516 ♂ Testis 5mm Caprimulgus vociferus skin + body skel  
Alytidromus albicottis not fat wt. 49.1 gms  
517 ♀ ovary 5mm x 2mm Ammodramus not fat wt. 15.0 gms  
skull only  
518 Odocoileus skull pick-up DISCARDED

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

150 ft.

March 31

- 519 tadpole Scaphiopus  
520 [Acris gryllus]  
521 " "

April 1

522 [Acris gryllus]

- 523 ♀ laying Parus } mated pair wt. 18.3 gms.  
524 ♂ testis 5mm " } wt. 20.8 gms.  
525 ♂ testis 6mm " unmated wt. 19.0 gms.  
526 ♀ ovary 4mm x 3mm " } (mated pair) oviduct visible wt. 16.7 gms  
527 ♂ testis 5mm " } wt. 20.8 gms.

Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas

April 2

- 528 ♀ largest ovum 3mm. Parus } mated pair wt. 18.6 gms.  
529 ♂ testis 5mm. " } wt. 18.4 gms.  
530 ♂ testis 5mm " moderately fat wt. 18.4 gms.

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 150 ft., Bee Co., Texas

April 4

531 [Acris gryllus]



K Dixon  
1951

Catalogue

Spring Creek, 175 ft., 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

April 4

532 *Sceloporus undulatus*

533 " "

534 ♂ *Parus*

wt. 21.1 gms.

535 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 3mm *Passerculus*

wt. 15.5 gms.

536 ♂ testis 4mm. *Chondestes grammacus* <sup>singing</sup> not fat

wt. 24.6 gms.

Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

April 8

537 ♀ <sup>brood</sup> patch *Parus*  
largest

wt. 18.6 gm.

538 ♀ ovum 7mm.

"

} mated  
pair

wt. 20.9 gms.

539 ♂ testis  
5mm.  
ske/ testis

"

wt. 20.3 "

540 ♂ 5mm *Parus carolinensis*

wt. 10.1 g.

April 9

541 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 5mm. *Parus*

oak-elm-juniper

wt. 19.5 gms.

542 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 7mm *Cyanocitta cristata*

" " "

wt. 89.6 gms

Martinez Creek, 10 mi. ENE San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas

April 11

543 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 9 x 3mm *Richmondia cardinalis* not fat

wt. 40.7 g.

544 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 7 x 4mm *Thryomanes bewickii*

wt. 12.1 g.

1 mi. SW Leon Springs, Bexar Co., Texas

April 12

545 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 5mm. *Parus atricinctus*

wt. 20.4 gms.

546 ♀ <sup>brood</sup> patch " "

wt. 20.0 "

547 ♀ <sup>largest</sup> ovum 1mm *Aphelocoma coerulescens* <sup>ovary</sup> 10 x 5mm.

wt. 85.5 gms

Comfort, Kendall Co., Texas

April 12

548 ♀ <sup>largest</sup> ovum 1.5mm. *Colinus virginianus*

pick-up



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1951

Catalogue

Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

April 13

- |     |              |              |                      |         |                                |
|-----|--------------|--------------|----------------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| 549 | ♀ laying     | <u>Parus</u> | <u>atricristatus</u> | } mated | wt. 19.9 gms.                  |
| 550 | ♂ testis 6mm | "            | "                    |         | 20.2                           |
| 551 | ♂ "          | "            | "                    |         | 20.1                           |
| 552 | ♀ laying     | "            | "                    | } mated | egg in oviduct 10 mm. 21.3 gms |
| 553 | ♂ testis 6mm | "            | "                    |         | wt. 20.9 gms.                  |

April 14

554 Acris gryllus

Colorado River at Bastrop, 370 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

April 15

- 555 Acris gryllus
- 556 Cnemidophorus sackii gularis
- 557 ♂ testis 7mm. Parus bicolor cottonwood-willow wt. 22.8 gms.

6 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas

April 15

- 558 ♂ testis 10mm. Strix post oak-blackjack oak pick-up

Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

April 17

- 559 Sceloporus olivaceus
- 560 " "
- 561 Holbrookia texana
- 562 " "
- 563 " "
- 564 ♂ testis 5mm. Parus wt. 20.1 gms.
- 565 ♀ largest ovum 1mm Richmondena (ovary 9mm x 4mm) wt. 42.6 gms.
- 566 ♂ Parus carolinensis } mated wt. 10.1 g.
- 567 ♀ broad patch " " wt. 10.6 gms





K Dixon  
1951

Catalogue

Barton Cr., 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft, Travis Co., Texas

Apr. 17

568 ♂ Vireo griseus

singing

wt. <sup>11.0</sup>~~10.0~~ gms.

5 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas

post oak -  
blackjack oak

Apr. 18

569 Cnemidophorus

sackii gularis

slight fat

570 ♂ testis 7 mm. Parus

wt. 23.4 gms

571 ♂ testis 7 mm x 5 mm "

wt. 23.4 gms.

572 ♀ largest ovum 4 mm "

slight fat  
brood patch

wt. 25.2 gms

skel

573 ♂ Parus carolinensis

wt. 10.3 gms

Bastrop, 370 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

Apr. 19

574 Acris gryllus

Mayhaw Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop,

Bastrop Co., Texas

Apr. 20

575 Acris gryllus

576 " "

577 Sceloporus olivaceus

578 ♂ testis 7 x 5 mm Parus

elm - willow bottom wt. 19.5 gm.

579 ♂ testis 6 x 5 mm "

" " 19.7 gm

580 ♂ testis enl. "

" " 19.9 gms.

581 ♂ testis 7 mm "

elm - mesquite 19.9 gms.

Skull only

582 Dasyus pick-up

Apr. 21

583 Cnemidophorus sackii gularis

584 ♂ testis 5 mm Parus

elm - mesquite 22.1 gms.

585 ♂ juv. "

" " 15.3 gms.



K. Dixon

1951

Mayhaw Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, , Bastrop Co., Texas

Apr. 21

586	♂	testis 6x4 mm.	<u>Parus</u>	} mated	elm-mesquite	wt. 20.4 gms.
587	♀	brood patch	"		"	wt. 19.3 gms.

1 mi. E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

Apr. 22

588 Phrynosoma cornutum pick-up

Claude Heard Ranch 8 mi. SE Beeville, Bee Co., Texas

Apr. 23

589 Heterodon platyrhinos "spreading adder" killed by foreman, T. Scott

Apr. 24

590 Phrynosoma cornutum

Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 175 ft., Bee Co., Texas

Apr. ~~23~~ 24

591	♀	largest ovum 8 mm testis	<u>Chondestes</u>	<u>gramacus</u>	} mated	post oak - live oak	wt. 27.5 gms.
592	♂	11 x 5 mm testis	"	"		"	wt. 29.3 "
593	♂	11 x 6 mm	"	"	"	"	wt. 27.5 gms.
594	♂	testis 4 mm	<u>Parus</u>		"	"	wt. 18.6 gms.
595	♀	laying	<u>Sturnella</u>	<u>magna</u>			wt. 86.7 gms.

Apr. 25

596	♂	testis 5 mm	<u>Parus</u>		live oak - post oak	wt. 19.8 gms.	
597	♂	testis 8 mm.	<u>Passerina</u>	<u>ciris</u>	singing	"	wt. 15.7 gms.

598 Cnemidophorus sackii gularis

Claude Heard Ranch, 8 mi SE Beeville, Bee Co., Texas

Apr. 25

599 Phrynosoma cornutum



K Dixon  
1951

Guadalupe River, 2 mi. SW Nursery, Victoria Co., Texas

Apr. 26

600 Cnemidophorus sackii gularis

2 mi. NNE Mission Valley, Victoria Co., Texas

Apr. 26

Masticophis flagellum

601 Coluber

{ 602 ♂ testis 6x4mm Parus liveout - post oak } mated  
603 ♀ about to lay " }

Wt. 17.0 gms.

Wt. 22.5 gms.

2 mi. SE Mission Valley, Victoria Co., Texas

Apr. 26

604 ♀ incubating Parus

605 ♂ testis 7x4mm "

post oak savanna

} mated

Wt. 20.7 gms.

Wt. 22.4

± 2 mi. W Victoria, Victoria Co., Texas

Apr. 26

606 ♂ testis 5mm Pseudacis

Wt. 18.7 gms.

Refugio, 50 mi., Refugio Co., Texas

Apr. 26

607 Chrysopepla cornutum pick-up

2 mi. SE Beeville, Bee Co., Texas

Apr. 27

608 Coluber [Salvadora lineata] pick-up

6 mi. SE Hondo, Medina Co., Texas

Apr. 28

609 Crotalus atrox pick-up

11 mi NW Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas

Apr. 28

alc

610 Parus atieristatus

Wt. 17.3 gms.

611 ♂ testis 6x4mm "

"

18.9





K Dixon  
1951

11 mi. NW Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas

Apr. 28

612	♀	brood patch	<u>Parus atricristatus</u>			slight fat	wt. 17.6 g.
613	♂		"	"			wt. 17.9 gms.
614	♀	brood patch	"	"	} mated	mesquite - elm slight fat	wt. 19.2 gms.
615	♂	testis 6x4 mm	"	"			
616	♂	testis 7x4 mm	"	"		mesquite	wt. 18.1 gms.

1 mi. NW Ft. Davis, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

Apr. 30

617 ♂ testis 5mm Pipilo fuscus

8 mi NE Wilcox, Cochise Co., Arizona

May 1

618 ♀ ovary 9x3mm. Lanius ludovicianus pick-up



K Dixon  
1951

Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas

March 1, 1951

400. *Pithecolobium flexibile* Benth. Ebony tree of my notes. Most common tree on parts of the refuge away from water, i.e.: slightly higher ground.

- 401 *Ulmus* *sp.* Willd. "whitebark tree"

- 402 *Leucaena* *verulenta* Benth. a cypress-like tree; brown <sup>leaves</sup>

- 403 *Ulmus* *sp.* cut from Tree "A"

- 404 growing on old river bank

Harlingen, Cameron Co., Texas

March 5

- 405 rigidly-branched shrub growing in coastal plain scrub with mesquite, *Opuntia*, scrubby ebony tree

College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

March 15

- 406 *Ulmus* *sp.* undershrub of post oak woodland

- 407 *Crataegus* *spatulata* Muhl. " " " "

- 408 *Ilex vomitoria* Ait. " " " "

soil sandy, level

Aransas ~~River~~, 5 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 18

[elev. approx. 150 ft.]

- 409 *Quercus virginiana* Mill. live oak large tree to 35 ft.

- 410 [*Berberis* *tristis* Mori] shrub to 6 ft high noted only as an undershrub of mesquite or other shrubs usually growing near their bases. In upland away from streamcourse.



K Dixon  
1957

## Plant Catalogue

### Aransas River, 4 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 26

- 411 *Celtis laevigata* var. *texana* small tree to 20 ft high growing in dense woodland along banks of river. Soil sandy. This tree fairly common.
- 412 *Ulmus crassifolia* Nutt. single tree growing under conditions described above.

- 413 *Ulmus crassifolia* smaller tree - as above

### Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 28

- 414 undershrub in live-oak - mesquite woodland — soil sandy

- 415 *Quercus virginiana* live oak - (see #404)

### Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

March 29

- 416 *Acacia Wrightii* Benth. shrub to 7 ft. in open woods of liveoaks, mesquite and #417

- 417 "blackbrush", a shrub to 10 ft. high, growing in dense thickets beneath and among liveoaks. Few leaved out - branch bark sample - bark smooth, brownish-pink.

- 418 shrub seen infrequently in liveoaks along creek.

### Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas

April 2

- 419 *Salix nigra* Marsh. willow small tree on river bank

- 420 *Celtis laevigata* Willd. var. *texana* catkin broke off

- 421 *Morus rubra* L.



KDixon  
1951

Plant Specimen Catalogue

Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas

April 2

- 422 *Xanthoxylum* (acacia) <sup>arg.</sup> shrub, rarely a tree in riparian woodland
- 423 *Vitis* *candicans* Engelm. climbing vine
- 424 *Ehretia* *anacua* (Berl.) Johnston white-flowered tree bark soft, checked, whitish
- 425 *Phacelia* *triflora* (L.) var. <sup>mod.</sup> undershrub growing to 8 ft
- 426 *Celtis* *occidentalis* Willd. medium sized tree - epigynous flowers dried up
- 427 *Ehretia* *anacua* (Berl.) Johnston tree in woodland
- 428 *Celtis* *occidentalis* Willd. " " "
- 429 " " " " " "

All the above growing along this small, oil-polluted stream within 50 yards of the stream on a bench about 15 feet above the present low level of the water. The soil was not especially sandy. There were no oaks growing in this woodland, the tallest trees of which probably did not exceed 30 to 35 feet.

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 150 ft., Bee Co., Texas

April 4

430. *Lycium* *carolinianum* Walt. var. *quadrifidum* (Moc. & Sess.) Willd. shrub growing in waist-high shrubbery including mesquite and catclaw - "flat" above river
- 431 *Phacelia* *tuliflora* (L.) Gray Det. L. Constance small, purple-flowered shrub growing on sandy soil
- 432 *Solanum* *Torreyi* Gray purple *Solanum*? sandy soil beside house 300 yards from river <sup>not seen elsewhere</sup>
- 433 *Acacia* *Farnesiana* Willd. low spreading shrub in uplands with
- 434, 435, post oak





K Dixon  
1951

Plant Specimen Catalogue

Aransas River, 150 ft., 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

April 4

434 Prosopis juliflora Swartz. mesquite

435. Acacia Farnesiana Willd. leguminose - appearing shrub  
branching from crown V or from short trunk V; 6-8 ft. high

3 1/2 mi. S, 8 mi. E Delvalle, Travis Co., in Bastrop Co., Texas

April 8

436 Ulmus crassiflorus Nutt. "cedar elm"

437 Celtis occidentalis Willd. var. texana S.

438 Ulmus crassiflorus Nutt. elm, shrub

all 3 growing beside brook

7 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas

Apr. 15

439 Quercus aff. stellata post oak? } common trees

440 Quercus sp. blackjack? } of upland forest

441 Juniperus virginiana L. cypress occasional

5 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas

Apr. 18

442 Carya sp. tree growing with 439-440

College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

Apr. 22

443 Ulmus alatus Mill. elm

444 Quercus macrocarpa L.

Spring Cr., 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 175 ft., Bee Co., Texas

Apr. 25

445

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Apr. 27

446



K Dixon  
1951

3 mi. N Del Rio, Val Verde Co., Texas

Apr. 29

- 447 *Acacia berlandieri* Leguminose shrub  
448 *Cercidium texanum* green-stemmed " "  
449 *Leucophyllum frutescens* shrub gray leaf, purple tubular flower  
450 *Celtis laevigata* Willd. var. <sup>texana Sarg.</sup> hackberry? small tree  
451 *Prosopis juliflora* Swartz DC. var. <sup>torreyana Torr.</sup> (Torr.) Lack.  
452 *Acacia Farnesiana* Willd. leguminose shrub  
453 *steris* rigid-branched shrub  
454 *Lalea formosa* Torr. low shrub (leguminose)

soil not sandy nor clay-like; small stones (near highway, however - construction?) - hackberry and mesquite the principal trees - some yucca

1 mi. NW Ft. Davis, 5000 ft., Jeff Davis Co., Texas

Apr. 30

- 455 *Quercus* sp. <sup>Texas?</sup>  
456 " <sup>Engelm.</sup> Torr. liveoak  
457 " " "  
458 *Juglans rupestris* Engelm. hickory?







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[\* = species account  
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Robin	6, 15, 19, 23, 25, 26, 34, 44, 60
Hermit Thrush	3, 23, 49
Bluebird	4, 36, 53



Townsend Solitaire	4, 60
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	6, 8, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34, 39
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	3, 4, 6, 16, 17, 25, 45
Phainopepla	60
Shrike	1, 36, 47
Starling	19
* White-eyed Vireo	7, 8, 10, 14, 23, 25, 26, 28, 33, 39, 44, 51, 53
Hutton Vireo	4
Bell Vireo	60
Yellow-thr. Vireo	29
Solitary Vireo	49
Yellow-gr. Vireo	6
Black-and-White Warbler	6, 23, 25, 28, 29, 34
Orange-cr. Warbler	6, 49
Nashville Warbler	42
Yellow Warbler	60
Magnolia Warbler	25, 26, 28
Myrtle Warbler	6, 9, 10, 12, 13, 16, 17, 23, 34, 39
Black-thr. Green Warbler	33
Yellow-thr. Warbler	34
Louisiana Water-thrush	32
Yellowthroat	9, 13, 60
Pileolated Warbler	60
Hooded Warbler	34
Redstart	(Parus notes, Apr.
E. Meadowlark	1, 4, 15, 25, 35, 55
Redwing	1, 12, 13, 60
Orchard Oriole	54, 60
Audubon Oriole	6, 7, 8
Baltimore Oriole	55
Bronzed Grackle	19



Brewer Blackbird	1, 25, 29	
* Great-tailed Grackle	6, 12, 13, 43, 45, 60	49, 60
Brown-headed Cowbird	6, 12, 13, 19, 24, 25, 29, 33, 35, 44,	
Red-eyed Cowbird	13	
English Sparrow	25, 29, 41	
Hepatic Tanager	49, 51	
* Cardinal	6, 8, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25, 26,	
	28, 29, 33, 39, 42, 44, 46, 49, 51, 53, 57	
Pyrrhuloxia	2	
Black-headed Grosbeak	60	
Blue Grosbeak	55	
<del>Painted</del> Painted Bunting	55, 57	
House Finch	3, 4, 47	
Pine Siskin	3	
Common Goldfinch	7, 44	
Arkansas Goldfinch	49	
Texas Sparrow	6, 7	
Spotted Towhee	3, 4, 17, 44, 51, 53, 60	
* Brown Towhee	3, 60	
Lark Bunting	2	
Savannah Sparrow	11, 13, 25	
Grasshopper Sparrow	35, 53	
Vesper Sparrow	15	
Lark Sparrow	23, 24, 25, 29, 37, 40, 41, 44, 53, 54, 55, 57	
Rufous-cr. Sparrow	3, 4, 60	
Cassin Sparrow	47	
Black-thr. Sparrow	8, 13, 47	
Oregon Junco	1	
Grey-headed Junco	1, 3	
Slate-colored Junco	17	
Chipping Sparrow	7, 49	





Clay-colored Sparrow	13
Field Sparrow	15, 49
White-crowned Sp.	44, 46, 53
White-thr. Sparrow	16, 17
Lincoln Sparrow	23
Song Sparrow	12, 39, 46, 53

#### AMPHIBIA

<u>Acris gryllus</u>	37, 38, 42, 49, 50, 52
<u>Bufo</u>	30, <del>44</del>
<u>Scaphiopus</u>	36, 34, 37

#### REPTILIA

alligator	31, 40
<u>Cnemidophorus</u>	50, 52, 53, 57
<u>Phrynosoma</u>	53, 54, 55
<u>Sceloporus</u>	12, 16, 34, 42, 45
<u>Crotaphytus</u>	9
* <u>Holbrookia</u>	48, 51
<u>Masticophis</u>	56
<u>Heterodon</u>	54
<u>Crotalus</u>	5, 22, 54, 57

#### MAMMALIA

White-tailed Deer	4, 34, 36, 49
Pronghorn	2
armadillo	45, 49, 53
coyote	7, 24, 32, 40
fur bearers, general	17
counties	21, 40
Peccary	21



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Feb 23. En route from El Paso, Texas to Alpine, Brewster Co., Texas

I left El Paso about 8:30 driving south along U.S. Hy. 80. This road runs along the Rio Grande Valley, a considerable portion of which in this area is under cultivation. On several occasions I noted Mourning Doves, Red-winged Blackbirds, Brewer Blackbirds and Meadowlarks at the roadside. The Meadowlarks particularly seemed to be picking at something there, whether gravel or some food items I do not know. I drove on to Sierra Blanca and Van Horn (noon) noting such birds as Shrikes and Say Phoebe and Raven along the road. I lost an hour to Central Standard Time at Van Horn and turned S on U.S. Hgwy 90 toward Marfa. At a point 7 mi. NW Valentine in Jeff Davis Co., I found a dead Horned Owl beside the road. I saved the bird for preparation as a skin. The area was level with no trees in sight (grassland, yucca, scattered small mesquite). Ravens and Marsh Hawks noted here occasionally.

At a roadside park a few miles West of Alpine, I saw Scrub-jays, Oregon and Gray-headed Juncos, Red-shafted Flicker and three Turkeys (game farm release?) all in oaks along stream-course. In Alpine I talked to Dr. <sup>Barton</sup> Warnock of the Sul Ross State Teachers College about the area and he thought my best bet might be to go to Big Bend Nat'l Park for extensive areas of junipers.

I drove on to Marathon, arriving at 5:15 pm and put up for the night. The day had been cloudy and I took no pictures. Freight trains roared by during the night frequently. There was a heavy dew although rain has been virtually non-existent in the Southwest this year. Sunset 6:45



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2

Feb 24. Marathon, Brewster Co., Texas I packed before 8:00 am (an hour after sunrise) and had sausage and eggs in town for 85 cents. I drove south through the desert scrub toward Big Bend. The highway was paved. About 20 miles S of Marathon I flushed 3 coveys of Scaled Quail from the roadside in the space of one mile. There were a dozen birds per covey at least. No more seen for quite a ways, then a covey near a water tank and a ~~few~~<sup>couple</sup> farther on. All in areas of mixed brush, not pure Laurea or grass. 31 miles S of Marathon - Red-tailed Hawk stayed beside freshly killed jack rabbit as I drove slowly past, then flew to fence post until I drove on, then returned. 5 or 6 Ravens in area but not at kill. Also noted along way, flocks of Lark Buntings, 2 single ♂ Pyrrhuloxias, Horned Larks, Curve-billed Thrasher

About ten miles of the road was unpaved, this inside the park boundary. I saw a flock of 13 prong horns just below 4000 ft. elevation; they watched me for a while, then some turned away before I could take a picture. Then one started and the whole herd crossed the road and went downslope to N.

Chisos Basin, 5400 ft., Brewster Co., Texas The vegetation in the basin in the area around the govt center (store, 'Chuck-wagon' cottages) is principally juniper - oak - pinon. Undergrowth include Rhus, yucca, pancake cacti, agave, probable Baccharis. The growth of grass is ample, grazing being prohibited. Along the creek bed I noted catclaw and probable Condalia. Birds seen in this vicinity:





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Feb. 24. Chisos Basin, 5400 ft., Brewster Co., Texas

Raven	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Mexican Jay	Pine Siskin (flock 12)
Rock Wren	House Finch
Bewick Wren	Spotted Towhee
Canyon Wren (song)	Brown Towhee (1)
Hermit Thrush	Rufous-crowned Sparrow <sup>most common bird</sup>
Bl-crested Titmouse	Gray-headed Junco
Mockingbird	

Feb. 25. Juniper Flat, Chisos Mts., 5600 ft., Brewster Co., Texas

I climbed up to this area at the suggestion of Peter Koch, a resident of the park and an interested observer of birds. Vegetation was more dense than that below, principally juniper again although with some patches of oaks. (See acc't of Parus atricristatus). I spent from 10:00 am until noon on the lower part of the flat. Overcast until about 11:30. Wind variable. Birds seen.

Red-shafted Flicker  
Ladder-backed Woodpecker  
Acorn-storing Woodpecker (heard)  
White-throated Swift (1)  
Sphelocoma ultramarina - call note yake-rake  
seemed identical to that of birds in Arizona  
Scrub Jay  
Black-necked Titmouse (see acc't)  
Bush-tit (flock 8-10)  
Bewick Wren (song seemed to have same pattern as in coastal Calif.)



Feb 25. Juniper Flat, 5600 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas

Townsend Solitaire

Spotted Towhee

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Chipping Sparrow

Hutton Vireo (singing)

Rufous-crowned Sparrow

House Finch

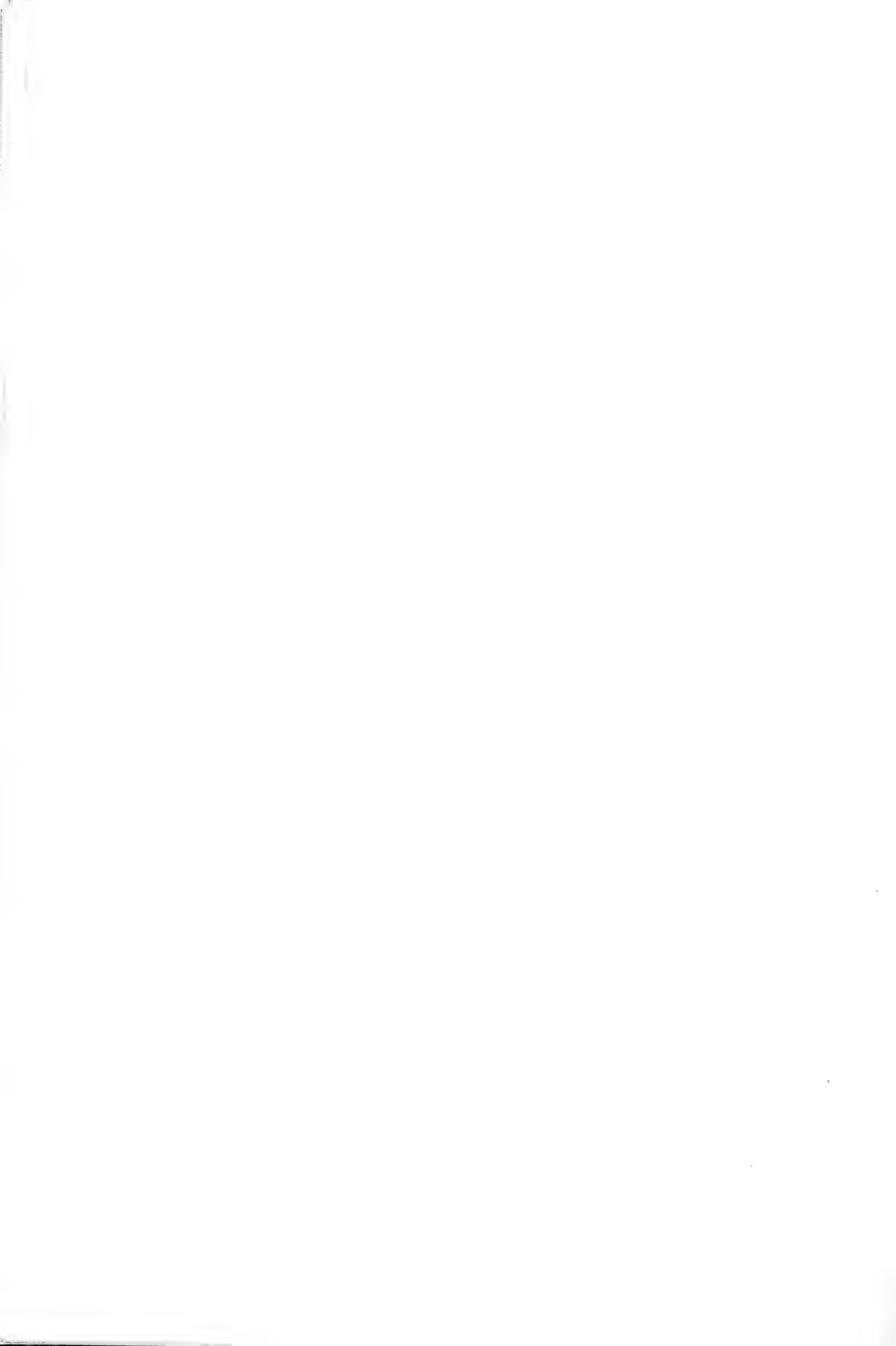
I scared up some white-tailed deer in oak thickets. As I approached & before I saw what was giving the call I was startled by a bellow which I recorded as "scoat", a rasping sound somewhat like a saw makes when it needs to be oiled. There were at least two deer present.

I left the park at 1:15 after discussing with Mr. Koth such matters as the Pine Canyon where a relict Rocky Mtn. flora exists, a wet cave where salamanders and bats might be found and plumage variants among Band-tailed Pigeons, pallid individuals with tail band barely distinguishable which nested apart from the main colony. On the road to Marathon in the creosote bush belt I saw Killdeer (1), Roadrunner (3 together), Bluebird, Meadowlark, Mockingbird.

I arrived in Marathon and fueled up, leaving at 4:10. I drove via Sanderson to Del Rio (8:30) where I put up for the night.

Feb 26. En route from Del Rio Texas to Harlingen, Cameron Co., Tex.

I left Del Rio at 8:30 am. Roads were damp, indicating heavy dew or rain. Overcast & windy. There must be a transition in the vegetation between Dryden and Del Rio on the highway 90, for creosote bush, the last



Feb 26.

thing I saw at dusk was replaced by a growth of mesquite and some widely-spaced plants similar in growth form to individuals of Adenostoma fasciculatum or some of the Eriodictyon of So. Calif. Spacing was wide. About 20 miles west of Carrizo Springs I found another Horned Owl dead beside the road but well mummified. A mile S of Catarina, Dimmit County I saw a dead rattle-snake beside the road. Perhaps  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, its diameter may have been increased due to bloating. Rattles had been removed either by human or ants so I left it.

In the vicinity of Roma, Starr County, the landscape looked somewhat greener and continued to look as though the <sup>tributary</sup> Apalacherouse vegetation were better developed as I went down the valley.

I arrived in Harlingen <sup>at 5:40 pm</sup> after passing through a citrus belt which was devastated by the worst frost in 60 years. The aspect of this agricultural area reminded me of the vicinity of Santa Ana, Orange Co., Calif. After dinner I called on Mr. L. Irby Davis of Harlingen, leading local bird watcher and keen observer of this and the Mexican avifauna. We discussed local bird distribution and he advised that I consult Mr. Luther Goldman concerning camping on the Santa Ana Refuge.

Feb. 27 San Benito, Cameron Co., Texas. I met Mr. Goldman about 8:30 a.m. and talked with him for 45 minutes about various subjects. He gave me permission to camp on the refuge and to band any bat mice I could catch. He also talked about local distribution on the refuge.



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# Journal

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Feb 27. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas

I arrived about 11:30, driving onto the refuge from a levee road which leaves the intersection of a road from Alamo and U.S. Hgwy 281. The refuge is reported to be the only natural stand of river bottom timber left along the Rio Grande Valley. Water levels are low around and the trees are just coming out in leaf after the killing frost of January. The custodian's <sup>residence and</sup> headquarters, a stucco, tile-roofed structure, were formerly a guest hotel (dining room and cottages).

I spent most of the afternoon watching birds in the vicinity of the headquarters (see species acc't). Birds noted:

Turkey Vulture

Golden-fronted Wdph.

Ladder-backed Wdph.

Green Jay

Barn Owl

Eastern Phoebe

Black-crested Titmouse

Carolina Wren

Mockingbird

Sennett's Thrasher

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Yellow-green Vireo

Black and White Warbler

Myrtle Warbler abundant

Orange-crowned Warbler

Audubon Oriole

Cardinal

Texas Sparrow

Feb 28. Following species in headquarters area:

Harris Hawk

Audubon Caracara

Merrill's Parangne (?)  
(calls whup whupoorwill  
zurreeerrin  
(whuh whuk whuck zateer)  
after dark in woods  
Robin

Brown-headed Cowbird

Great-tailed Grackle

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

(? cliff?) Swallow several  
flew over at sunset





7  
Feb 28. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

Along the river 4:40 - 5:10 pm I saw 1 Black Vulture  
in a flock of 100+ Turkey Vultures (100 actually counted)  
They were soaring into a wind from the SE. In thickets,  
I encountered only Texas Sparrow and Bl-crested Titmouse.

Mch 1 At sunrise (7:00 am) I noted large number of bats  
flying over residence and among trees, probably feeding  
on the mosquitoes which abound in area. Other mammals  
noted: cottontail; coyotes heard. Additional birds:

Audubon Oriole ♀

(Bewick Wren?) song

White eyed Vireo (singing)

White-fronted Pigeon

American Goldfinch

Marsh Hawk

I left the refuge at 5:30 pm and drove to Alamo, McAllen  
and Mission where I spent the night. The following  
morning I drove W on highway 83 through Sullivan  
City toward Rio Grande City.



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8

March 2. 4 mi. SE Rio Grande City, Starr Co., Texas After spending the night in Mission, Hidalgo County, I drove W toward Rio Grande City; I turned off the highway to the S on to property of the Starr Farm Co. After fully half an hour of "no habla ingles" and conversations with lesser employees, I met the foreman, who, as he put it, did not forbid me to hunt in an area of mesquite thicket. I worked along the edge of the first level above the river bottom and in some bottomland as well from 8:40 until about 10:00. The sun shone and the wind blew up the valley as usual. The vegetation of the river bottom area of 5 acres or so was much less densely wooded than anything on the Refuge - it had been thinned considerably. To E and W, fields were under cultivation and to the N, on the first level above the riverbed, there were mesquite thickets. I worked in the latter area from 10:00 until 10:50 and noted the following birds: Green Jay, <sup>Gnatcatcher</sup> Black-crested Titmouse, White-eyed Vireo?, Black-throated Sparrow, Bewick Wren (song), <sup>mockingbird</sup> Roadrunner, I took a ♀ Ladder-backed Woodpecker, my attention being called to her by the <sup>call</sup> ~~large~~ note "pick". Earlier I had heard a whining from a woodpecker, more broken and labored than that of D. nuttallii.

Birds of the river bottom (including those seen 10:50 - 11:10: Green Jay, Carolina Wren, Cardinal, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Titmouse, Mockingbird, Merrill's Parakeet (one flushed from bank in brushy area at 9:00 am), Andubon Oriole (one taken at close range mistaken for a jay - good only for a skeleton).



March 2. 4 miles SE Rio Grande City, Starr Co., Texas

Turkey Vulture, Harris Hawk, myrtle Warbler (few)

Cottontail. The only reptile seen was a large black snake, perhaps 42" long. After 10:00, bird hunting was poor and I had no opportunity to take any Green Jays. Notably absent was the Golden-fronted Woodpecker - few ebony trees in area.

I drove into the city and had lunch, after which I drove north to a city dump 1/2 mi NE Rio Grande City. I walked over and around trash heaps on sandy soil and pebbly slopes among the mesquite trees and xeric shrubs from 12:10 - 12:40. I saw no reptiles although I took many occasions to turn over boards, cardboard boxes etc: Mockingbird the only bird seen. From 12:50 - 1:05 I walked along the edge of a clearing in the mesquite N of the tracks and NE of Ringgold Barracks. Again no activity in this supposed habitat of Crotaphytus reticulatus. The original cover seems to have been mesquite thicket with Adolphia (?), pancake Opuntia, a lead-pencil cactus, and some other shrubs. In some places the undergrowth seems to be lacking perhaps due to clearing. I found no extensive grassy country along the way. I returned to the Refuge at 3:15 pm. (See acct of Parus atricristatus)

March 3. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas.

Overcast, calm morning. I noted a Yellowthroat ♂ singing in weedy growth in dried up lake E of headquarters. The song I recorded as "rádelsey ráydelsey" had the accent on the first syllable.



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March 3. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Tex.

George Unland, patrolman who resides on the refuge, identified two pigeons which circled the headquarters as being the Red-billed Pigeon (first <sup>record for this</sup> spring). He also thought he saw a Band-tailed Pigeon (dark body, light bill).

I left the headquarters at 9:45 and drove down toward the river. I saw a White-eyed Vireo in an area of more closely spaced trees than the headquarters area. The song I recorded as "whick fuzzee she bear" repeated over and over. I spent about 20 minutes along the river noting Harris' Hawk and Myrtle Warbler only.

Leaving the refuge about 10:40 I drove to San Benito and Harlingen arriving there at 11:50.

March 4. L. Irby Davis of Harlingen took me on a drive up the river in the vicinity of San Juan and La Feria

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. We drove along the levee roads for the most part.

Derby Flycatcher - one along small stream with wooded banks

Sharp's Seedeater - one on lawn of farmhouse.

ponds near Santa Maria, Cameron Co., Texas

White Ibis (4)

Roseate Spoonbill

Snowy Egret

White Pelican

Louisiana Heron (1)

Mexican Cormorant

Olivier (Long-billed?)

Shoveller

Great Blue Heron

Red-shouldered Hawk

Little Blue Heron





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March 4, coastal prairie NW Port Isabel, Cameron Co., Texas

grassy prairie with some patches of mesquite, yucca (blooming late this season, some not yet in blossom) and Opuntia. Most of area had been cleared for agriculture. (I accompanied Mr. & Mrs. Davis and Mr. & Mrs. Terry Gill on a drive 4:00 - 6:00 pm) Mr. Gill estimated that half a million acres of mesquite-covered land had been cleared during the last 4 years.

Sennett's white-tailed Hawk adult (1) & Imm (1)

Sage Thrasher

Curve-billed Thrasher

Mockingbird

Harris Hawk

} together in one cactus patch

Savannah Sparrows and Horned Larks in plowed field



Mch 5. arroyo at Harlingen, Cameron Co., Texas - area of mesquite  
 brushland SE of city - such ebony trees as are  
 present are dwarfed - Opuntia clumps common -  
 no large trees. Foggy day, calm, humidity high.  
 I was in area 9:00 - 10:00 am, 2:45 - 3:30 pm, 4:30 -  
 5:20 pm. Birds noted along streamcourse & in uplands:

Spotted Sandpiper

Bewick Wren

Belted Kingfisher

Curve-billed Thrasher

Accipiter sp.

Mockingbird

Lentus aurifrons

Green Jay (4)

Dendrocopos scalaris

Myrtle Warbler

Verdin 1 ♂

Song Sparrow

House Wren (1)

Great-tailed Grackle

mixed flock at 5:15 (on way to roost?) - Redwings  
 and Cowbirds

I searched for reptiles in sandstone area around  
Opuntia patches 2:45 - 3:30 and noted no activity.  
 After 4:30 I followed a tributary to the arroyo, a brook  
 a foot or so wide with heavy covering of algae in  
 places - banks soft making approach to stream  
 difficult. Many small, fast-swimming fish but  
 no amphibians seen. At this time I noted 2  
Sceloporus active, one on log beside stream and  
 other in Opuntia patch but the string of which  
 my noose was made was too heavy to catch these  
 active lizards.



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Journal

13.

Mich 5.  $\pm$  2 mi. S Port Brownsville, Cameron Co., Texas

coastal prairie area of mesquite and other xeric shrubs, Opuntia, some Salicornia-like and Grindelia-like shrubs. The ground appeared to be alkaline.

Ladder-backed Woodpecker      Bewick Wren  
Myrtle Warbler (abundant — several seen foraging on the ground)      Mockingbird

Clay-colored Sparrow - small flock 6-8

Black-throated Sparrow      Cardinal

resaca  $\frac{1}{4}$  mi. E Russeltown, Cameron Co., Texas

Dense brushy growth along either side (ebony trees present but small) water at low level, surrounded by green cat-tails and dead grasses. (1:40 - 2:30 pm)

Mexican Cormorant

Green Jay (heard)

American Egret

Herby Flycatcher (1)

Coot

Eastern Phoebe (1)

Black Vulture (2)

Myrtle Warbler

Centurus aurifrons

Yellowthroat (singing)

Dendrocopos scalaris

Savannah Sparrow

$\pm$  2 mi. NE San Benito, Cameron Co., Texas

a mixed flock of icterids in farmland at 10:15 am. Great-tailed Grackles  $\sigma^7$  &  $\text{f}$  foraged in the rows dug for irrigation of vegetable crop while Red-eyed Cowbirds, Brown-headed Cowbirds and Redwings stayed on higher ground near the farmhouse. One  $\sigma^7$  Tangavins gave a "hunch-back, neck ruffling display" even though no other birds were within a foot or more of him.



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14.

Mar 6. resaca 1/2 mi SW Olmito, Cameron Co., Tex.

In dense growth of closely spaced sapling-like  
ebony trees  $\pm 20'$  high, I heard song of Black-  
crested Titmouse at 9:45 am (high fog). Along  
partial clearing to S I encountered only White-  
eyed Vireo and Verdin. On water or shore were  
Solitary Sandpiper, Coot, Mexican Cormorant.  
overhead, Red-shouldered Hawk, Black Vulture

I left Harlingen at 1:00 pm, driving N on  
U.S. Hwy 77 through Raymondville. Countryside  
appeared to be coastal plain prairie with leaf-  
less "mesquite" but not other rigid, xeric shrubs  
as seen along arroyo at Harlingen. At point  
7 mi S Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas, I saw live oaks  
for the first time on this road & also sand dunes inland  
from the highway. 9 mi S of Sarita, Kenedy Co., Tex  
one Sennett's White-tailed Hawk in sand dune  
country. A few miles SW of Refugio I ran into good  
groves of mature live oaks often on sandy substrate  
with mesquite on higher ground. However as I drove  
on toward Victoria I noted an intermingling of  
live-oaks, deciduous oaks and mesquite away  
from the stream-courses. In some instances I  
noted an abrupt boundary between mesquite and  
grassland as though the mesquite had been cleared.  
Considerable area of plowed fields seen along way  
NE of Kingsville toward Victoria. I ate in Victoria and  
reached Cuero, De Witt Co., Tex. spending the night there.





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## Journal

15.

March 7. En route from Cuero, DeWitt Co., Texas I left Cuero about 7:30 am driving through Yoakum to La Grange. The sky was overcast. The trees were largely deciduous oaks. At La Grange I encountered pines in a mixed growth with the oaks but they soon played out. I drove to Giddings and 5 mi N of there turned off U.S. 77 on to Texas Hwy 21, reaching Bryan at 10:45 am. I drove on to College Station. There I looked an old friend, Mr. Donald Eidemiller, Assistant Prof. of Geography. He had invited me to stay in his home as a guest.

### 1 mi E College Station

In the late afternoon I noted a large flock of Purple Grackles in a residence area generously dotted with post oak and Black Jack Oak. In some scrubby oaks I saw Field Sparrows and Vesper Sparrows, Mockingbird and Blue Jay.

March 8. I worked an area of post oak woodland with some blackjack scattered through and two undershrub layers, the Taller (hawthorn) coming out in leaf. Ground was leaf-strewn under trees or closely grass-covered in glades. Woods had been cut over.

I flushed several cottontails in the wooded areas. Birds:

? Black-billed Cuckoo call?

Robin (1 overhead)

Crow

Cardinal

Blue Jay

Field Sparrow

Mockingbird

Brown Thrasher

Carolina Wren elsewhere

Carolina Chickadee

Eastern Meadowlark in

Tufted Titmouse

open fields



## Journal

Mch 8. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

I was in area 8:00 - 11:00 am. and from 1:45 - 3:15.

Mch 9. I worked in area to the S until about 10:00 then in same area as yesterday until noon. Additional birds:

yellow-shafted

✓ Flicker (8) in grassy area - ant hills noted there

Myrtle Warbler

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Downy Woodpecker (whinny heard) White-throated Sparrow (1)

I noted one skink under a log but couldn't catch it; another in oak leaves. Sceloporus (2) at base of fallen tree in roots and soil.

Mch 10. OVERCAST, calm. I walked around the neighborhood 6:30 - 7:45. Birds noted included a covey of a dozen Bob-white Quail flushed in the grass at the edge of a wooded stream-course. Cardinals, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse also seen along creek.

Mch 12. The weather turned cold with strong winds from the north. Last night, the Videmiller baby became ill and he went to Houston so I helped with the domestic duties and didn't get afield. There was 0.56 inches of rain.

Mch 13 9 mi NW Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas. I was taken to this area by Mr. John F. Wood a student at A&M College working on fur-beavers. (In my notes on Larus bicolor I gave the locality as 9 mi NE Bryan but a check of the map showed Mr. Wood had his directions mixed) COLD (32°F in Bryan at 8:00 am, predicted maximum, 52°F) WIND strong from N up to 12 m.p.h., SUNNY. We made a number of stops along the road



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## Journal

17.

Mar 13 9 mi. NW Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas — where Wood set some traps — in area 9:30 — 11:30 a.m. The areas I worked in were chiefly post oak woodland with understory of yaupon (Ilex sp.), hawthorn, wild rose(?), other deciduous shrubs. Both cottontails and jackrabbit noted. Wood said that the Raccoon was the most common furbearer with Striped Skunk, Gray Fox and Ring-tailed Fox present in some numbers. He did not mention opossum but stated that this species led the list of furbearers in total sales at 15 cents per hide. Raccoon was worth 55 cents and Bassariscus \$3.00 during the season just closed. Grazing was permitted on this area, a privately owned ranch.

Birds noted:

Turkey Vulture

Crow

Carolina Chickadee (see species acc't)

Tufted Titmouse " " "

Carolina Wren 1 taken

Mockingbird

Brown Thrasher

Myrtle Warbler

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Cardinal (common)

(Spotted) Red-eyed Towhee

White-throated Sparrow (common)

Slate-colored Junco (1 seen)

Wood stated that he believed that the climax in the uplands of this area was post oak forest with scattered underbrush and considerable grass. He thought the denser growth of the ever-green yaupon (Ilex) was the result of disturbance.



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# Journal

Mar 13 9 mi NW Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas. Mr. Wood thought that the more open woods represented the climax as a result of his own observations and the opinions of old-timers in the region. He showed me an "island" of prairie (now with some mesquite scattered on it) in the woodland. These patches of grassland exist on black soil in contrast to the sandy loam on which the forest grows.

At the north edge of Bryan about 11:45 we picked up a dead Barned Owl on the road. We had not noticed it there on our way out to the study area 2½ hours earlier. I made it into a skin and body skeleton.

Mar 14. In area visited yesterday 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. See species acc't for Parus bicolor. I took only one bird a ♀ Cardinal (#482) which I took along a creek bed in tangled vines. The only new birds seen here today were Black Vulture and Red-tailed Hawk.

On our way to the area, Wood and I stopped for coffee in Bryan and there met a Mr. Seal, who owns the land on which Wood was working. He showed keen interest in Wood's problem and asked about each animal in turn and of Wood's findings on it. His mind seemed open to new findings but he showed a tendency to want to assign a value to each species and treat it accordingly.

Wood, a student of Prof. Davis with an M.A. from A. & M. College seemed to know what he was about in the combined fur beaver - predator study. He realized the immense scope of the problem and that that very





Mch 14. 9 mi NW Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas  
 scope was the factor responsible for the financial support which had been obtained for the study.

Mch 15. 1 mi E College Station, Brazos Co., Texas

I wandered around the residence area before breakfast then spent the period from 8:10 until 9:50 a.m. in the woodland area to the E of the city limits. See species acc't for Larus bicolor. I noted several Robins foraging individually and a group of 3 in contrast to the lone bird seen last week. Only one Flicker (yellow-shafted)

At 10:30 I noticed a lone Starling on the lawn at A & M College. At noon we noted the large flock of Quiscalus which has been travelling through the neighborhood. The birds congregate under oak trees apparently feeding on acorns but we saw them foraging in the open as well (ground with scattered tufts of grass). There were a number of Brown-headed Cowbirds among the grackles. One grackle hopped along with its injured leg held up. The others walked of course.

I observed twice again in the same area E of the house from 5:20 until 6:20.

Mch 16. I left College Station at 9:45 a.m. proceeding via Bryan on Texas Hwy 21 and U.S. 27 to Giddings, Lee Co. A mile or two S of here live oaks appeared. I noticed pines S of the hamlet of Wanda, Co., and a mixture of pine, juniper, live oak and post oak in the vicinity of La Grange, Fayette Co. Live oaks appeared more numerous in the area near Schulenburg, Fayette Co.



Mar 16. 5 mi. N ~~NE~~ Hallettsville, Lavaca Co., Texas. I found a recently-killed Brown Thrasher along the road in wooded country. The bird was "scalped" and somewhat battered but I saved it for a skeleton. A mile or so down the road I found a mummified Screech Owl beside the road in live oak country, the first roadside kill of this bird I have noted. 6 mi NE Cuero, De Witt Co., Texas. Mesquite appeared here in stands for the first time along Hwy 77 (US) driving SW. It seemed considerably out in leaf in contrast to 10 days ago.

Mesquite and mesquite-live oak in flats west of Victoria along Rte 59 (U.S.) in Victoria County. The smaller streams from this point W had only live oak along their borders. The only floodplain woodland or forest with tall trees was along the San Antonio River on U.S. 59 in Goliad County. Cottonwoods and other tall trees were noticeable.

As I drove into Bee County I ran through dense stands of brush, chiefly mesquite of development comparable to that west of Mission in Hidalgo County. Beeville, Bee County Texas. I arrived here about 3:30 pm & called for mail at the Post Office. Then I proceeded to the Courthouse, an imposing structure and called at the office of the County Agent for the Agric. Extension Service. He was not in but his secretary, Mrs. Mina Cherry, was there and was quite willing to help me. She hunts deer every year and takes a great interest in wildlife matters. She has charge of bounty payments (\$3.00 a scalp) for predators



Mch 16. Beeville, Bee Co., Texas re: gray "wolf", red "wolf"  
bobcat and "lynx" at least. She told of experiences  
 watching and hunting javelina in Bee County and of  
 the dog-hunters hate for those peccaries. She said  
 that "volves" when pursued by a pack of hounds would  
 slip through a herd of javelina, whereupon the dogs  
 would follow and would be cut up by the peccaries.  
 She told of the nesting of White-winged Dove in Beeville  
 and of the former occurrence of Tophnot or Blue  
Quail in the county.

Mrs. Cherry made some plans to negotiate to get  
 me onto the property of a Mr. Claude Hurd along the  
 Arkansas River so I told her I would call at  
 9:00 a.m. on the morrow to hear the result.

Mch 17. (Foggy) overcast, wind from S. I met the County Agent,  
 Mr. Jack Forgason, who suggested access to the  
 Arkansas Creek through the Driscoll property E  
 of Skidmore. He gave me a letter of introduction to  
 Mr. J. Corbello, ranch foreman.

I left Beeville at noon and drove to Skidmore,  
Bee County. I past Mr. Corbello on the road and  
 then drove on past his ranch to the

Arkansas River, 5 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

As I approached the river on a county road which  
 leaves US 181 at the schoolhouse in Skidmore, I  
 noted that the brush and oak reproduction had  
 been cleared but that the mature oak trees were left  
 standing (Mr. Corbello later told me that they had been "chained")



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Mar 17. Aransas River, 5 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas  
ie: uprooted or broken by a chain dragged between 2 tractors) There was no large timber along the river at the point where a suspension bridge crosses it. The stream known locally as Aransas Creek was dry except for a few small pools.

I had radiator trouble and finally refilled at the horse trough at the ranch headquarters. I drove back into town and to Turbello's house and back to the ranch, 2 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas. I picked up a dead snake on the road and preserved it (KLD #484). At 5:00 I met Mr. Turbello, who not only gave me permission to hunt on <sup>Driscoll's</sup> ~~the~~ property but offered me the use of his bunkhouse. He warned about the danger of "dry-tails" or rattlesnakes, which were vating at present. The land includes about 7000 acres with something over a mile frontage on the S bank of Aransas Creek and something less than that on the N bank. The drought is so bad here that the cattle are fed each night on baled hay and mash in the form of pellets (alfalfa meal?) I heard 2 Horned Owls in mesquite S of ranch <sup>8:00 P.M.</sup>

Mar 18. The wind shifted during the night and about 2:00 a.m. commenced to blow strongly from the N. At sunrise its velocity was above 15 miles per hour and dust was blown across the feeding yards almost continually.

I left the bunkhouse about 8:45 and drove E along the road. Between the county road and the creek, the brush had been removed by chains dragged between 2 tractors.





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Mar 18. Aransas Creek, 5 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Only the larger oaks were left standing although I noted that some of the younger sapling-like shrubs had not been uprooted by the "chaining".

I drove across the bridge, made a corkscrew turn beneath it to get to the W side of the road and drove N & W a mile or so to the W fence of the Driscoll property N of the creek. Thence S to the creek (9:00 - 10:00) then back to bridge by 10:45 a.m. In the mesquite of the uplands I noted 4 Robins and a number of Blue-gray Grackles. I took one of the latter; these birds seemed to be traveling in groups of 3 or 4 and were more common in open mesquite with grassland beneath. In this association I saw also Mourning Doves (2 "couples") and 2 Lark Sparrows together. In denser brush near the W fence and along the creek I saw grackles and Cardinals (usually paired). In dense brush I flushed a large owl; as it perched momentarily I saw no ears & noted tawny color — Strix ?? 1 Red-shouldered Hawk & 2 Turkey Vultures 40 ft away, both in open streambed.

From 11:00 - 12:00 I walked along the creek E of the bridge. About 1/4 mile E of bridge where a side draw enters Aransas Creek from the north, I investigated song of a titmouse in brush. Here I noted about 3 pair of Cardinals, a White-eyed Vireo (see spec. acc't), one Black-and-White Warbler, <sup>2 or 3 grackles</sup> a single titmouse, a myrtle Warbler, a Ladder-backed Woodpecker. Nearby, 2 Lincoln Sparrows and a Hermit Thrush across the creek.



Mch 18. Aransas Creek, 5 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

In hunting along in the clumps of live oak S of the river I encountered paired Cardinals in brush piles; they seemed reluctant to fly far but were wary. WIND DROPPING to  $\pm 10$  mph. I heard a Ladder-backed Woodpecker and stalked it as it flew to successive trees after 12:10. It flew fully 200 yards before I returned to hunt other birds. At 12:20 I heard the sharp pick from the same tree where I first saw the  $\sigma$  at 12:10. The caller was a  $\sigma$ , the same one? - I took him, #489.

2 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas. Returning to the bunkhouse at 12:30, I noticed a mixed flock of Black and Turkey Vultures on the ground (carion not seen). I shot into a flock of Cowbirds in a tree in the yard & collected 3. I believe they were all Molothrus in the flock.

WIND CONTINUED; RAIN INTERMITTENT AFTER 3:00 pm. At 7:00 pm., outside temp  $46^{\circ}$  F. about 8:30 pm I heard coyotes howling. (Last night they had approached quite near the house).

Mch 19. 2 mi E Skidmore, Bee County Texas overcast but wind not so strong as it was yesterday. I walked out into the yard on the ranch at 7:45 and took a  $\sigma$  Golden-fronted Woodpecker and a  $\text{f}$  Ladder-backed Woodpecker. Flock of Brown headed Cowbirds in tree, Lark Sparrows, Mourning Doves and Ground Doves feeding on ground. I left the cabin at 9:00 and drove E along county road to W fence of Rodriguez property.



2 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Turkey Vulture

Black Vulture

Bob-white Quail

Killdeer

Mourning Dove

Mexican Ground Dove

Roadrunner

White-throated Swift (?)

Golden-fronted Wdpr.

Ladder-backed Wdpr.

Crested Flycatcher

Black-crested Titmouse

Mockingbird

Robin

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Bird species list

White-eyed Vireo

Black-and-White Warbler

Magnolia (?) Warbler

English Sparrow

Brown-headed Cowbird

Brewer Blackbird

Meadowlark

Cardinal

Lark Sparrow

Savannah Sparrow

Horned Owl? (heard)

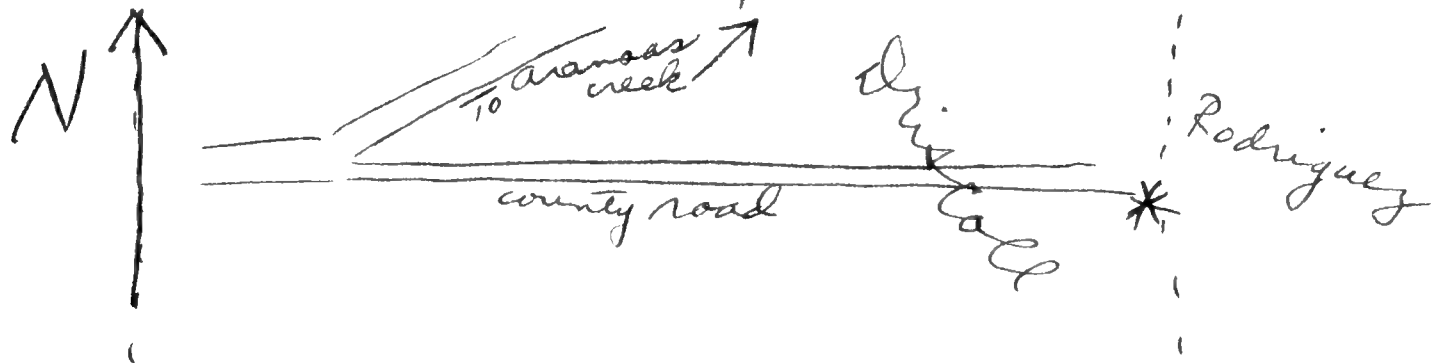


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Mar 19. 4 mi. E Skidmore, Bee County, Texas. I started at the corner of the Rodriguez and Driscoll properties.



marked asterisk and hunted in ~~pie~~-shaded tract of 600 yard radius S and W of that point. From 9:15 to 10:00 I saw only 2 individual birds, a Crested Flycatcher and a Ladder-backed Woodpecker. After 10:00 I walked through Rodriguez property (without my gun) and ran onto a small flock of birds: Titmouse 1 pair (see species acct), White-eyed Vireo (1, singing) Magnolia? warbler, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (several) Cardinal, ? Sparrow, Bewick Wren. (see vegetation comment below)

From 10:30 - 11:45 I hunted on Driscoll property chiefly farther S than I had been earlier. In oak-mesquite scrub I saw Robin (flock 6), Ladder-bk'd Woodpecker (♂, taken), White-eyed Vireo (taken, #490), single Crested Flycatcher. The Robins were on the ground beneath <sup>mesquite</sup> ~~finches~~.

The vegetation on the Rodriguez place appeared to be more closely spaced with more underbrush; perhaps this was the result of less severe grazing or perhaps vegetation was removed from other property a few years previously.

I drove into Beeville at noon, had lunch, then went to the post office where I received word of my sister's death. I returned to the ranch, straightened up my belongings and drove out of Beeville at 3:30, arriving in San Antonio 2 hours later.





Mch. 24. San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas. I arrived here at 11:00 pm last night after a round trip flight to San Diego, California. On the return trip in western Texas, particularly east of the Pecos River, there was a great deal of dust in the air so that the ground objects were not distinct from  $\pm 5000$  feet above the ground. At the surface level at Midland, visibility was clear for several miles.

Today I purchased some maps from the M. L. Ferguson map Co., San Antonio and departed from that city about 1:30 pm after having lunch with an old friend, Fred W Knight, of that city. I drove to Somerset, Bexar County to contact Mr. G. J. Kim but was informed of his death in October, 1950. The countryside N of Somerset was cultivated or cleared for the most part but there were stands of mesquite here and there. There were some larger trees along the creeks and a more dense growth there also, i.e. small but more fully-leaved deciduous trees in contrast to mesquite brush of the uplands. Live Oak Creek, 2 1/2 mi NE Somerset, Bexar Co., Texas - vegetation as above - pair of Carolina Chickadees and a Black-crowned Titmouse seen. Farther N, along Medina Creek at crossing of Somerset Road, trees are taller, <sup>more widely spaced,</sup> no underbrush.

I drove on US 181 after 3:00. Around Burg's Mill in Bexar Co., there were some large trees in the uplands, deciduous oaks and perhaps other trees as well. 11 mi SE Burg's Mill, rolling country for about 10 mi farther SE with sand dunes or at least sandy soil. This substrate supported a forest of mixed oak trees, live & deciduous. Otherwise or elsewhere mesquite was extensive.



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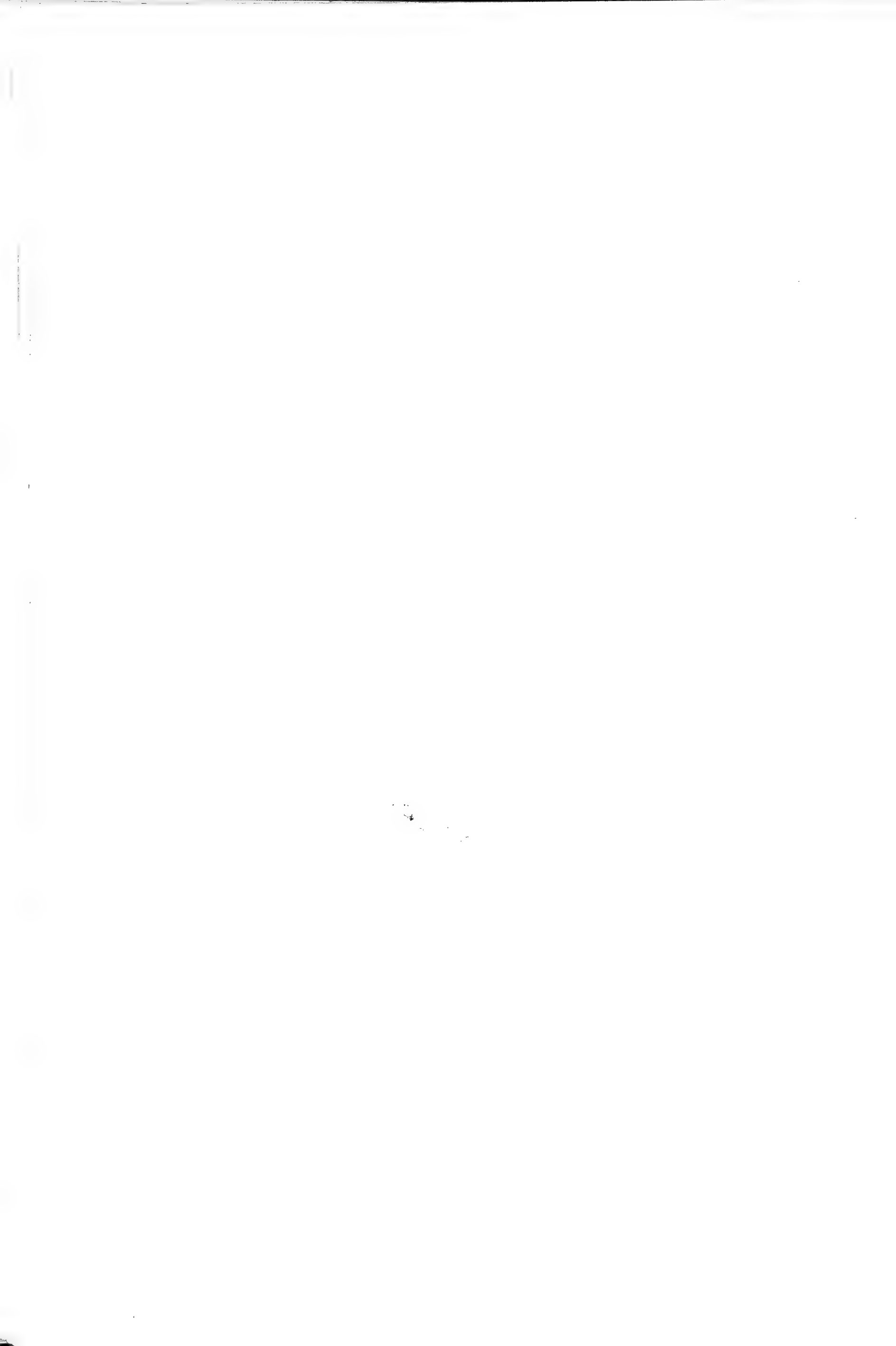
Mar 24. 2 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas I arrived at the bunkhouse where I had stayed previously at 7:30 pm after dining in Beeville. Cloudy, with a light breeze from the SE; 62°F at 9:00 p.m.

Mar 25. Rain commenced falling about midnight and continued steadily until daylight. I would estimate the fall to be in excess of one inch. At 8:00 a.m., temperature 56°F, breeze to 4 mph from SE.

I talked to Mr. Curbello briefly about 8:30 a.m. He mentioned that further clearing had been done S of the bunkhouse at a cost of about \$6.00 per acre. He also commented that the cost of feeding stock ran to about \$100 daily [580 <sup>cattle +</sup> horses]. I hunted in an area about a mile E of the bunkhouse, driving there with the aid of chains. The cover varied from grassland with scattered Prosopis to a cover of more closely spaced mesquite with various underbrush species present. I was in this area S of the road from about 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Birds were scarce except for a flock of about 20 gnatcatchers following (it seemed) a Black-crested Titmouse & accompanied by Black-and-white and Magnolia(?) Warbler and White-eyed Vireo. Also in this habitat: Mourning Dove, Cardinal, 2 spp vultures, Ladder-backed Wophr.

Covey of 6 Bob-white Quail near road in mesquite-grass.

10:40 - 12:00 I hunted in liveoak woods (cleared except for larger trees) N of road. Here I took a Black-crested Tit from a flock similar to that described above. I also took a White-eyed Vireo which was singing and appeared to be mated and a ♂ Cardinal in similar circumstances. The ♀ Ladder-backed Wophr taken (#494) was calling in answer to a ♂ nearby.



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Mch 25. 3 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas In the same area flying just above and sometimes among the tops of the liveoaks I saw several large swifts with tail discernable; one with white throat - no calls - white-throated Swift? RAINING

I left this area and drove back to the bunk house at 12:20.

2 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas - noted Brewer Blackbird ♂ (white-eye) and later ♀ call note "check") in flock with Brown-headed Cowbirds.

During the afternoon I heard Lark Sparrows and watched them forage on the ground near the house - song wren-like.

At 5:00 I walked out in the yard and approached a pile of brush into which I had seen a Cardinal fly. Cowbirds and English Sparrows flew up from the brush but one of the former remained in view & others inside. I shot the cowbird, a ♂ (#496), which had a deformed bill with superfluous horny growth on both mandibles. Its crop was full of large round seeds and it was moderately fat; also had many lice.

RAIN CONTINUED intermittently until dark, Temp 56°F at 8:30.

Mch 26. 3 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas. I hunted in live oaks and on into leafless riverbank woodland from 8:10 - 9:45. In the live oaks for only 20 minutes (see Parus see 4)  
In timber along the S bank of the <sup>river</sup>~~road~~ about 4 mi ENE Skidmore I noted a flock of grackles, Black-and-white Warblers and a Yellow-throated Vireo with 2 towhees. I took a ♂ Cardinal (#499) which was being pursued by another ♂. I started to drive back to the ranch (about 1 1/2 mi W of where I had parked at 10:00 but had chain tangle



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Mar 26. 2 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

troubles on the muddy road and arrived an hour later.

I talked to "Buck" Curbello, the foreman's son and an experienced cowman, for a few minutes in the afternoon. He told me that they were carrying about 500 cows and 80 bulls, horses, etc: thus about 500 head of "stock" on 7000 acres of land.

I packed up and left the ranch about 3:00, driving over muddy roads with the aid of chains, leaving Skidmore on paving (U.S. 59) at 3:30. I called on the County Agric Extension Agent, Mr. J. P. Ferguson, and his secretary, Mrs. Cherry, then went out to buy groceries. I discovered the loss of my travellers cheques and returned to the ranch to hunt for them at places where I had crawled under fences and also around the bunkhouse. I started back toward town about 7:50 pm - raining

1 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas - shortly after leaving the bunkhouse on the Discoll Ranch I noticed something shining beside the road, glistening in headlight beams. The next such object was moving and I stopped and collected it, a toad, #500. The second (#504) also was hopping along, having been sitting in the water in a rut left by an automobile tire. I took 3 more toads within a few minutes all under the same conditions. One, (#501), had a patterned back - some of the skin appeared to be sticking to my hands as I tied the label to it after killing the toads with carbon tetrachloride fumes. Toads were all along the road as I drove into Beeville (I arrived at 9:00 & put up in a hotel)





Mch 27. Claude Heard Ranch,  $\pm$  8 mi SE Beeville, Bee Co., Texas. I rode out here with J P Forgason to see Mr. Heard this morning. We had a lengthy discussion of rain, drought, feeding cattle, etc: Mr Heard had sold all of this year's calves in order to aid his cows to pull through the spring. He was worried about deterioration of his pastures and planned to sow much of the acreage with "blue panic" a perennial grass. He said however that he didn't want to "farm" his pastureland, that he wanted it to be the latter. We discussed brush management problems and both Mr. Heard and Mr. Forgason were of the opinion that the original vegetation here was waist-high grass and that oak woodland and brush were restricted in their distribution. Mr. Heard invited me to stay on his property and offered me the use of a house near the Aransas River. They mentioned the occurrence of alligators along the stream.

Mr. Forgason mentioned that the chief "cash crops" of Bee County were flax, broom corn, cotton, and grain sorghum, all of about equal acreage.

I stayed in town until 3:00 pm then returned to the Heard Ranch and drove to the house near the river. This house is the last building remaining of the "Corrigan settlement" according to Mr. Forgason. It is 16 miles by road from Beeville. I walked over to the ~~river~~ <sup>river</sup> (so called on all maps I have seen) and upstream to within sight of the bridge on the county road <sup>leading</sup> E of Skidmore. I estimated the house to be in excess of  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the first draw E of the bridge on the N bank.



Mch 27. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I decided upon this name for the locality even though it can be reached by driving only by the Refugio road going SE from Beeville. The Heard property adjoins the Driscoll so I should have opportunity to collect along a good segment of the stream. Birds seen during my walk 5:00 - 6:00 pm included

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

Belted Kingfisher (1)

Wilson Snipe (1)

Louisiana Water Thrush

Red-bellied Hawk (1)

Barred Owl - duet whuh — — — — — whuh-whoa

The last two notes coupled, 8 altogether.

Sunset 6:47 - about 10 minutes later I saw bats leave the building through attic ventilator on N side. A few minutes later I heard the call of Merrill's Parakee "zurreer urr" a hoarse whistle, accent on middle syllable. I started to hunt the bird but it moved away. Second calling to E.

Coyotes howled at 8:30, not earlier.

Lightening flashes to N - sky clear overhead.

Mch 28. About 12:30 a.m. the wind increased from the S; rain fell later, a heavy downpour between 6:00 and 7:00 a.m. By 8:00 the skies were clearing and weather was warm & humid (about 90° F at 11:00 am)

I left the house at 7:45 and walked downstream for about a mile, perhaps a little more, remaining on the N bank. At



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Mich 28. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

9:40 I started back and later cut inland to mesquite-liv oak growth. No snakes seen. Birds not seen previously along the river included Great Blue Heron, Brown-headed Cowbird, Black-throated Green Warbler

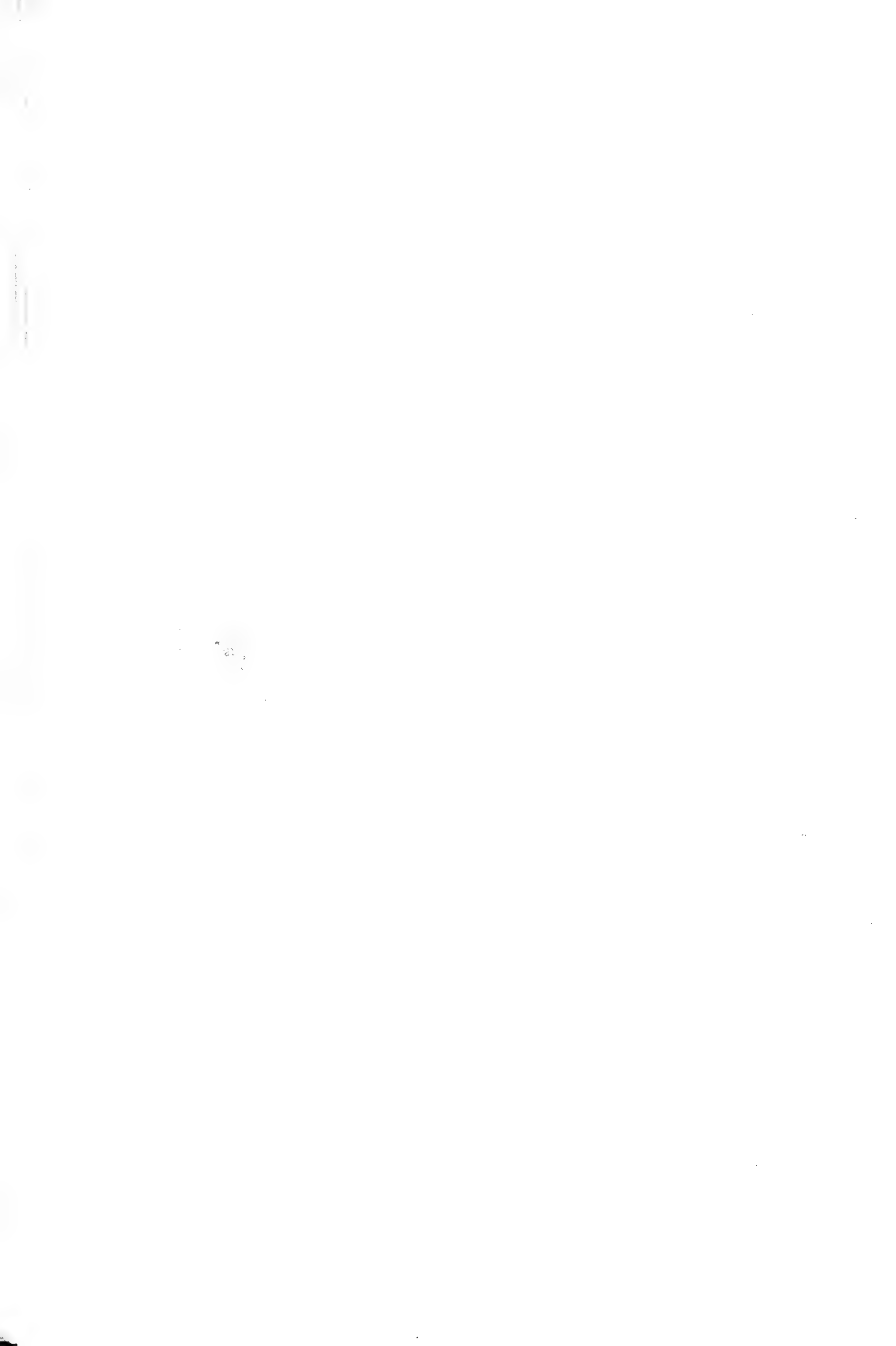
A flock of medium-sized hawks, possibly Broad-winged (tail markings not seen) and a possible American Rough-legged Hawk seen, the latter in open pasture.

Along a creek E of the house I flushed a Merull's Parakeet on 3 successive occasions, the bird tending to fly short distances (up to about 100 feet) and settle on the ground beneath dense brush.

During the morning I took a ♂ Cardinal (#508) This species is the most obvious if not the most abundant species along the river. I took a ♂ white-eyed Vireo along the creek about 9:00 and later collected a ♀ (#506) farther upstream. This individual was accompanying a singing ♂ which I wasn't able to collect. I also took a Ladder-backed Woodpecker ♀ in live-oaks near the house, the ♂ escaping. Along the river at noon, I heard only Vireo griseus and the Cardinal in song.

I took several black and white photographs before 4:00 pm then drove about 1 mile N of the house and worked along a creek in the liveoaks and mesquite-brush. Cardinal and a Barred Owl the only birds seen 4:30 - 4:50.

At sunset I waited by the attic ventilation outlet where bats had flown out last evening. At 6:54 2 bats flew



17ch 28. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

from the slotted portal, <sup>on the N side,</sup> then others flew from the one on the E side of the house. I had hoped to hit one with my slingshot but only one more flew, at 7:06. All the bats, which suggested Eptesicus, in appearance flew E toward the river & <sup>pastures</sup> ~~meadows~~ to N thereof.

Nyctidromus started calling at 7:06. I searched a pool N of the house carefully but found no amphibians.

17ch 29. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Clouds clearing, sunny, wind from NW up to 12 mph. This area, liveoaks (predominately) mesquite and brush along the creek, postoaks widely spaced in the uplands, is about 1 mile N of the house I am living in. I reached the area at 7:30 a.m. and stayed there until noon. For full acc't see under Parks \_\_\_\_\_.

I jumped 2 white-tailed Deer in dense growth along the creek and a cottontail rabbit in a blackbrush thicket.

Barred Owl - several seen chiefly in large liveoak trees where they appear to roost. They are wary and I never got within gun range.

Carolina Chickadee - (see spec. acc't)

Robin - 2 in thicket with other passerines

Yellowthroated Warbler in flocks with gnatcatcher and Black-and-White and Myrtle Warblers.

Hooded Warbler - one came through brush as I squeaked.

I found a mummified <sup>Scaphiopus</sup> frog at noon on the road in a sandy area 50 yards from the creek. I preserved it as # 509.

One Sceloporus seen in Opuntia clump about 11:00 am.





Mar 29. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Mourning Dove - scattered throughout area, paired.

Meadowlark - seems to be in flocks yet for most part.

The only song I have heard has been Eastern Meadowlark.

Killdeer - noted in grassy areas & near ponds.

Upland Plover - two solitary individuals seen along road to ranch headquarters N of Spring Creek in mid-afternoon.

I left the bunkhouse at 4:00 and drove to Beeville, returning at 8:05. I watched along the road for vertebrates but saw only jackrabbits, one skunk I took to be a Hognosed, and Killdeer.

CALM IN EVENING, 55°F at 9:30 pm, never hot all day.

Mar 30. I drove to the same area before 7:30 and worked first along the creek where I had been yesterday, then along another branch 1/2 mile E. See acct for Parus

I took a <sup>Caprimulgus</sup> pauraque in mesquite-liveoak thicket at 11:15. I had flushed this bird as well as another earlier in the day. In each case they seemed to seek a level place in shade, perhaps behind a downed log beneath a tree or bush, always on the ground.

Shortly after taking the pauraque I saw a sharrow hop from grassy area into a thicket. It stopped then continued always afoot. I collected it, finding the bird however still alive. It flew out of my hand, hopped along the ground and I recaptured it. The bird did not seem to be injured but seemed reluctant to fly, possibly because of the wind. Grasshopper Sparrow

Cowbirds seem to be more widely distributed than they were 10 days ago.



Mch 30. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Although it was calm when I started, breeze came up about 8:30 from the S. By 9:15 it had shifted to SE and was up to 12 mph or so. It continued throughout the day and into the evening.

I returned to the area I had been in from 9:00 - 10:40 this morning for a few minutes about 6:00. Birds were inactive as they had been in mid-morning. 3 white-tailed Deer along that branch of the creek.

I watched for bats and found that they left the vent on the windy (S) side of the house and that most waited until 7:12 - 7:16, sunset being about 6:49. I was unable to take any with my slingshot.

Mch. 31. Calm until 8:15 when wind came up from SE. Generally clear until 9:00 when clouds moved in from S, forming complete cloud cover. I worked along the eastern fork of the creek from 7:15 - 9:30; see Parus acc 't. Nothing out of the ordinary occurred there.

I left for Beeville at 10:45, returning to the cabin at 3:00. To the east of Beeville on a pasture fence I noticed an Eastern Bluebird. On the ranch near my cabin I saw a Loggerhead Shrike in mesquite dotted pasture and a Red-tailed hawk with 2 flashmarks (buff) along sides of rump, red tail, dark collar on throat.

I drove along the oil pipeline road to the river, reaching this area about 400 yards downstream from the bridge at 3:40. Clouds tending to break up, WIND STILL STRONG from S. Birds generally inactive, little Blue Heron along <sup>1<sup>st</sup> tributary</sup> below bridge.



## Journal

Mar 31. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

See acct for Parus. At the mouth of the 1<sup>st</sup> tributary on the N. side of the river below the bridge, I noted a very small gray frog leap into the water. Others did likewise and I was unable to capture any for a while. They tended to jump in and swim back to the bank at a different point, diving in again if they saw me move. Others, however remained in the muddy water for some time before climbing out on the bank. I was able to capture two (#520, 521) About 4:45, as I was watching these frogs, I heard a grating call ek-ek-ek, a sequence of notes uttered rapidly from a point a few yards upstream. The call was given from <sup>several</sup> other points then, always from the margin of the stream it seemed to <sup>no other amphibians noted in area.</sup> me. These calls continued intermittently. At dusk I heard a chorus of similar sounds from along the river, a chorus I was not aware of on previous evenings.

I collected a tadpole (#519) from beneath a leaf floating at the water's edge. Hind legs were not visible yet; colors did not seem to change when it was preserved. Occurrence of a tadpole is a little surprising although there were a few pools extant in this area of the river before the rain. The river is not running yet although the standing pools form an almost continuous body of water. Residents stated that this was the first rain in about a year (the one of March 25-26)

I departed at 5:10 pm. Toward sunset the clouds cleared away completely but the wind velocity did not change. I spent some time watching Lark Sparrows, then stationed myself to shoot bats at 7:10. No flight took place



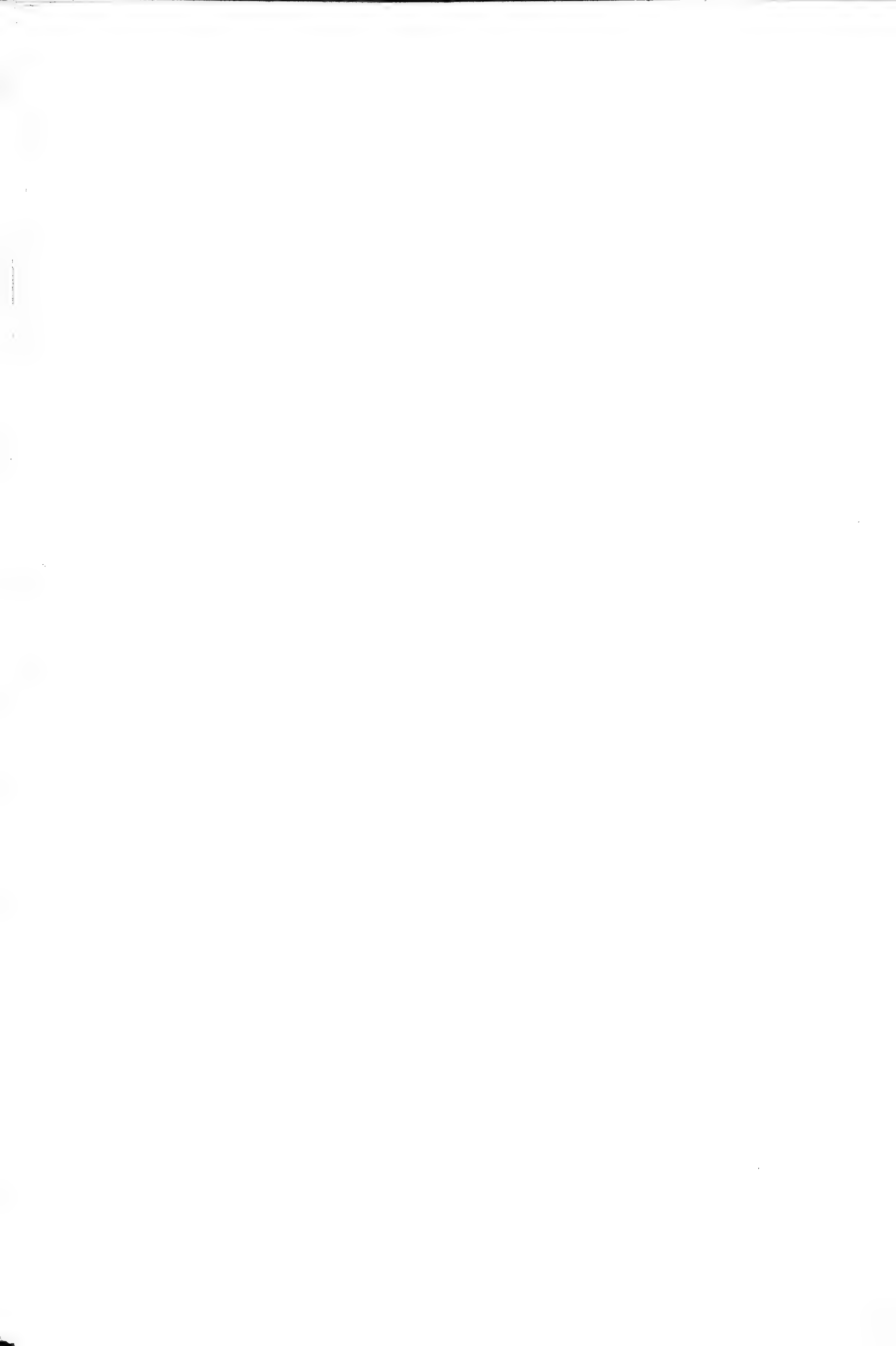
Mar 31 Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas  
by 7:22 so I retired from the S lounge. Either they had flown earlier or they used other exits.

[This morning when I awoke, the dawn chorus was in full swing along the river (before 6:00 a.m.) Among the other voices including Barned Owl, I heard a (Black-crested) Titmouse and a Turkey gobble several times.]

April 1 Cloudy, clearing about noon. Moderate breeze from S after 8:00 a.m.  
I worked along the river upstream and S of the bridge, gone from camp 6:30 - 11:00 a.m. See acc't of Parus for details.  
One small frog (522) taken on sandy bank several feet from water (low prostrate herbs in area).

I spent the afternoon skinning birds, cleaning and straightening up around the house. I packed some gear and left the house at 5:40, driving to Refugio via state hwy 202, arriving at 6:40.

April 2. Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas. Clear morning, light breeze from E. I walked along the E bank of the river for 150 yards N of highway 77 bridge 7:30-7:45. I returned at 9:00 after clearing with the sheriff, Mr. Harsdorf, on permission to collect in that area. He promised to back me up if owners should object. I worked along the W bank for half to 3/4 of a mile below the railroad bridge near the highway. The area along the stream, a bench or floodplain 15 ft or so above the low level of water in this oil polluted creek, was wooded. The trees were well leafed out and the vegetation seemed to be out more fully than along the Aransas. I collected a number of specimens of trees.





April 2. Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas.

Tree species represented include:

No live oaks nor other Quercus species growing there and few mesquite. Farther W there was somewhat more scrubby growth. The streamcourse woodland was dense in some places reminding me of that along the lower Rio Grande. Tallest trees however not over 30-35 ft, most 20-25.

Birds seen in this area:

Black-crested Titmouse

Cardinal - most abundant bird, singing steadily

White-eyed Vireo common, singing

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher

Black-and-white Warbler

Carolina Chickadee 1 seen

Brown Thrasher 1 seen

Myrtle Warbler

Song Sparrow 1 seen

no woodpeckers

I left this area at noon after taking photographs and spent the next two hours in town. Refugio is a rather run down town of 4000 population which apparently has enjoyed recent prosperity (postwar). Oil seems to be the main income source and prices are high. I left at 2:20 pm driving west on hwy 202.



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40.

April 2 Blanco Creek, Refugio Co., Texas I stopped at the bridge about 5 mi NW Refugio and took a photograph of the tall leafless trees in the bottomland — liveoak on slope W creek.

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas I reached the house at 3:40 — half an hour later I walked down to the river to take some photographs, returning at 4:45.

Calm, clear in evening. I took station beside the house to watch the bat flight from the S escape at 7:05 (sun had set; Sirius the only star visible). (7:10 Regel visible). 7:13 pauraque called for the first time. Shortly afterward a bat flew toward the house from the river. 7:15 last song from lark sparrow. No flight of bats from anywhere that I could see by 7:30 so I gave up the vigil.

April 3. Sunny early, clouding in toward noon. Calm. Dawn chorus voluminous including Turkey. Barned Owl giving 6-hoot call at 7:40 along river to E of Corrigan House (in which I was staying). I left the house at 8:00 and drove to Beaumont; there I met Mr. Grady Stiles, farm editor of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times in the County Agents' office. He asked a number of questions about my work and discussed an interview with Val Lehmann on the King Ranch, Kingsville, Kleburg Co., Texas. Lehmann had told him that the sex ratio in Bob-white Quail was about 20♂:1♀ as a result of severe drought and the winter freezes in 1951.

While we were talking, a trapper brought in 4 scalps and cut them in two between the ears. One was a coyote, the others were "red wolves". The latter 3 ♀ had given premature birth to their young when they were trapped; there were 7, 8, and 9 young respectively according to this man. He received \$12.00 bounty.



April 3. Beeville, Bee Co., Texas. We discussed several other matters pertaining to natural history. Two alligators have been taken along the Aransas River in recent weeks; they have just come out of hibernation according to Mr. Ferguson. He commented on White-winged Doves stating that a few spend the winter here and that the Boat-tailed Grackle is a feared nest-robber of the doves. He told me that the Mexican Ground Dove was not considered a game bird in this area and that most White-wings moved S before the season or then opened.

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, 150 ft., Bee Co., Texas

I returned to the house (old Corrigan home) about 3:00 pm and spent from 3:45 — 6:00 pm mapping the area S of the bridge (Driscoll prop). At the ranch house, English Sparrow on the windmill.

April 4. Dawn chorus subsided by 6:00 — Skunk not detected until 6:02 — drowned out? Turkeys heard definitely.

I drove to the area along

Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

at 7:10 and worked in post oak woodland but was unable to take a Lark Sparrow (2 wounded, escaped). CALM, SUNNY, 50°F at 6:00. At 8:10 I drove E to the tributary W the windmill — there in the oaks I saw a Green Heron (creek dry at this point for over half a mile). The heron watched me flipping its tail down and back up into normal posture "neurotically" and frequently; it seemed reluctant to fly.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher along creek (dry area)

I proceeded downstream to the Aransas and doubled



April 4. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore<sup>175ft</sup>, Bee Co., Texas  
 back to the house at 11:40. Then I walked back to my  
 car and returned to the house at 1:10. WIND MODERATE  
 AFTER 8:00 — STRONG BY LATE A.M.

Crested Flycatcher — one in mesquite, inactive

Nashville Warbler — one in liveoaks

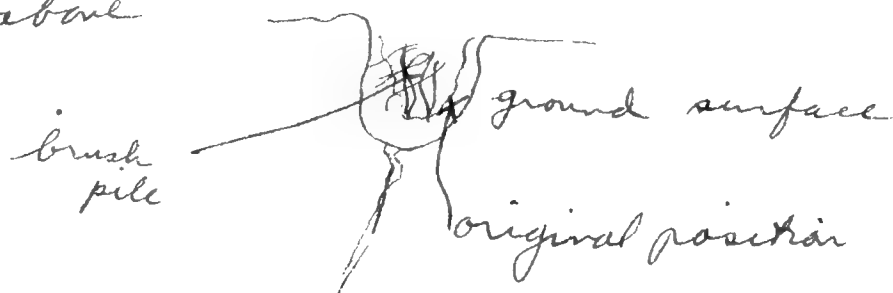
Cardinal (see sp. acc't)

Turkey — two along creek near pool; banks well wooded

Black Vulture — flock  $\pm 20$  at same waterhole

Bobwhite — one individual in post oak — mesquite at noon

Whip-poor-will — one at edge of eroded bank (plain  
 creek  
 from above



Bird flew not more than 3 ft and turned quickly to perch  
 on twig parallel to it and facing the wind. It flew when I  
 walked within 4 feet. (noon)

I spent some time taking photographs around the  
 bridge along the Arkansas 2:00 — 3:00 pm — took a  
 frog (#531) there

I collected 2 Sceloporus, 1 (#532) on a log in the creek  
 bottom near a well wooded bank at 10:40. The other  
 half an hour later in grassy area some distance from any  
 large trees or fallen timber — lizard took refuge in a  
 tuft of grass (#533)





Apr. 5, Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 150 ft., Bee Co., Texas

I left the house on the Heard Ranch at 9:30 a.m. and drove to the headquarters, stopping to talk to Mr. Ted Scott, the herdsman, briefly. I reached Beeville about 10:30 and drove N toward San Antonio on U.S. Hgwy. 181.

1 mi. S Poth, Wilson Co., Texas - one Audubon Caracara in plowed field about 50 yds. from hwy at noon.

I drove on through San Antonio after stopping for lunch then proceeded via U.S. Hgwy 81 to Austin without incident. Austin, Travis Co., Texas. I arrived in this city about 4:30 pm and put up in an auto court on the west side of town.

Apr. 6. I was awakened by the calls of Blue Jays and Great-tailed Grackles - the day started sunny but rain commenced by 9:00 a.m. I went out to the University of Texas and there met Dr. W. Frank Blair and Dr. Clark Hubbs and graduate students in zoology. I discussed local bird distribution with Wilma A. Thornton, a student now studying isolating mechanisms in toads. I made arrangements to go to an area W of town with another student, H. W. Phillips, the next day.

Apr. 7 Barton Cr., 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

CLEAR, CALM. Homer Phillips and I reached the Gaines Farm via Fredricksburg Road about 7:00 a.m. We left our car on the edge of the plateau and walked down into the canyon cut by Barton Creek. The flat above and the slopes of the canyon were covered by a woodland of Juniperus mexicana Spanish oak (Q. texana), some live oak and hackberry and cedar elm, the latter two more abundant in the bottom.



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Apr. 7 Barton Creek, 4 mi SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

The canyon bottom, 100 - 150 ft below the plateau level, had varying amounts of riparian woodland on a ledge above the dry streamcourse. In groves of elm near the creek and elm-juniper-oak near the base of the hill there were many birds. Sycamores grew along the creek downstream from the bend to which the path from the Gaines Farm leads.

Phillips and I walked through the canyon bottom area 7:20 - 8:30 and noted the following birds there or on slopes above.

Crow	Ruby-throated Hummingbird
Blue Jay	Robin White-eyed Vireo
Black Vulture	Spotted Towhee Lark Sparrow
Turkey Vulture	Cardinal
Carolina Chickadee	White-crowned Sparrow
Bl-crested Titmouse	Brown-headed Cowbird
Wild Turkey	Common Goldfinch ♀

Apr. 8 SUNNY, CALM. I was in area 7:00 - 10:15 - see acc't for Black-crested Titmouse. Birds not seen yesterday:

Carolina Wren singing a ringing "triddle-yon" over and over from brushy area along small brook. Birds had been silent in area due to my crashing about but the wren commenced its song again once a Cardinal ♂ broke the silence. I found this wren wary. Bobwhite (1) in same area. Warblers singing early were not identified. Cardinal seemingly <sup>in</sup> the greatest density. No woodpeckers noticed



April 9. Barton Cr., 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

CALM; HIGH THIN CLOUDS dimming sun cleared by 9:00.

I worked in area 7:20 - 10:10. Birds seen in addition to those listed previously include Brown Thrasher (one in brush in elm grove), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (singing), Canyon Wren singing in rocky streambottom. Flock of 12 Black Vultures in tall dead tree (no Turkey Vulture present)

I found an armadillo skeleton and saw dead opossum and ~~spotted~~ <sup>striped</sup> Skunk on road near the ranch. Sceloporus ~~in~~ in rocks along canyon bottom and a small skink in leaf litter in oak grove eluded me.

Austin, Travis Co., Texas. Chimney Swifts flying over residence area S of the Colorado River - Blue Jay and Great-tailed Grackle common in same area.

I left Austin at 2:30 and drove to San Antonio. Large black clouds to west brought high winds and hail to San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas about 5:00 p.m. I put up for the night in an auto court.

Apr. 10. I went to the Witte Memorial Museum this morning and talked with Mrs. Ellen Schultz Quillen, the Director. She referred me to her husband, R. W. Quillen, and to David J. Bullock for information about ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~local~~ <sup>local</sup> bird distribution. In the afternoon I called upon Mr. Bullock, a retired hardware merchant nearly 80 years of age. He had collected birds in Texas off and on since 1916, residing here during the last 10 years, until recently at Buchanan Lake in Burnet and Llano counties. He informed me that the Black-crested Titmouse was the common breeding



Apr. 10. San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas

species in that area and at San Antonio. We drove to St. Mary's University in this city. Mr. Bullock had prepared an exhibition of mounted bird and mammal displays there in a museum room. We talked with the curator, Brother <sup>Banks?</sup>, concerning the Albert J. Kin collection left to that institution. He said that Mr. Kin had only representative bird skins and no series. Kin's manuscript on the Birds of SW Texas was said to be only a list although I had understood differently from Mrs. Quillen. No one plans to complete the work.

Mr. Bullock gave me 5 bird skins for which I am to give him 5 skins of California mammals.

Apr. 11. A "norther" struck San Antonio with moderate but cold winds and overcast skies, clearing in the late morning. I drove to the east of the city on the Houston hwy to a point about 8 miles E, then N and E to the Eisenhower farm on Martinez Creek, 10 mi. ENE San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas

I walked through a typical mesquite brush area 10:30 - 11:45 looking for twice but finding none:

Cardinal common, 1 ♀ taken      Mockingbird

Ladder-backed Woodpecker 1 ♂ seen      Roadrunner

White-crowned Sparrow several

Song Sparrow

Mourning Dove 1 flushed from nest 6 ft up in mesquite

others seen

Bewick Wren 1 ♂ taken (only one seen)

Curve-billed Thrasher (1 a mile W in mesquite)

Black-tailed Jack and Cottontail seen





Apr. 11 San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas I returned to the city via the same route — little land along the 8 miles of highway remains in brush, being either cultivated or in residence use.

This evening I talked with Mr. R. W. Quillen over the telephone. He has not been active in bird work for a dozen years or so but earlier had worked in large areas of southern Texas, often with A. J. Kinn. He told me that the Guadalupe River was a pretty accurate general dividing line between eastern and western faunas in Texas and that many of the eastern birds found in the Austin region played out between San Marcos and New Braunfels. He spoke of changes in local distribution, the House Finch appearing here about 1933 now a common nester.

Cassin Sparrow common in some years, often wet ones

Black-throated Sparrow — now exceedingly rare

Chimney Swift a recent addition to the local fauna

Curve-billed Thrasher now here, not listed by Athwater

Mr. Quillen said that he had known Mr. Athwater, an Englishman, and thought him exceedingly reliable. He mentioned no other local bird workers in addition to Kinn. He told of having shown a series of oddly-plumaged Sennett's Titmouse to Oberholser who stated, "Roy, don't bother about those accursed hybrids" Mr. Quillen also opined that the white-rumped Shrike did not make up more than 25% of the local population, the others being California or sonoriensis.



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Apr. 12 1 mi. SW Leon Springs, Bexar Co., Texas. I worked here in an area of juniper-oak woodland from 9:00 - 11:40 am. I was accompanied by D. J. Bullock of San Antonio. The land on which we hunted (leased by owner of B-29 Cafe in Leon Springs) was used as a deer-hunting preserve (reported \$7.00 per day charged for hunting privileges). See account of Parus atricristatus.

I left San Antonio at 2:30 p.m. driving via Boerne, Kendall Co., to Kerrville. On the outskirts of Comfort, Kendall Co., Texas I found a Bobwhite <sup>1620 ft.</sup> & freshly killed beside the road.

Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas - I arrived at 4:30 p.m. and put up for the night. I called on the game warden, Jack Gregory, that evening and discussed the possibilities of obtaining permission to hunt birds on private property. He gave me several names as possible contacts.

Apr. 13. Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas. I reached this property by driving along the Harper Road W and then N of Kerrville. The property, operated by R. L. Sabins, lies along Town Creek - Mr. Sabins operates livestock, chiefly goats it appeared to me but a few cattle and sheep. Many of the juniper trees have been removed, leaving a woodland of Spanish oak (Q. texana) and in some places liveoak (on some hills, juniper remain). I was in this area along the creek from 7:50 am until 12:50 pm. For complete acc't see under Parus atricristatus - aerial photograph traced

I was impressed by the numbers of Wild Turkey along the tributaries although I made no estimates of numbers. I saw a lizard, whitish and depressed, among small rocks along a streamcourse, possibly a Holbrookia



Apr. 14 Sabine Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

Clear and calm at 6:45 but variable winds after 8:00 a.m. I worked in the same general area as yesterday - see acc't for Parus.

Working along the brook (running water) I noticed small frogs in some places. They seemed to be along the banks only where there were ~~dead~~ leaves or other debris in the water and invariably they sought shelter beneath such material when disturbed. I took one (#554).

I noticed one white-tailed deer skull with antlers attached. Unfortunately, the antler tips had been dissolved by the brook waters in which they lay so I left the skull there.

Armadillo carcass noted also.

Bird list, Apr 13-14

Turkey Vulture

Wild Turkey

Mourning Dove

Ladder-bkd. W. Flycr.

Scrub Jay

Carolina Chickadee

Black-ctd Titmouse

Bewick Wren (nest in  
dead tree along creek  
8 ft above ground)

Mockingbird

Hermit Thrush

Orange-crowned Warbler

Golden-cheeked Warbler

~~Solitary~~ Vireo (singing)

Cowbird (Brown-headed)

Hepatic Tanager (Apr. 14)

Cardinal

Green-bkd Goldfinch

Lark Sparrow

Chipping Sparrow

Field Sparrow



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Apr. 14 En route from Kerrville to San Antonio, Texas - I left Kerrville at 1:30 and drove via Boerne to San Antonio. The Edwards Plateau vegetation: juniper, Quercus texana, liveoak prevails east or SE of Leon Springs nearly to San Antonio; junipers are intermingled there.

I left San Antonio at 5:45 pm and drove to Austin where I put up for the night.

Apr. 15 Onion Creek, 2 mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas - Gray overcast; calm. I worked along this creek with its tall willows and cottonwoods, 8:45 - 10:10 a.m. - See acc't for Parus \_\_\_\_\_ . I drove E to a point

8 mi. E, 3 1/2 mi. S Delvalle IN Bastrop Co., Texas - I had visited this locality on Apr. 8, accompanying Mr. Edward Kincaid of Austin. In this area of mesquite and cedar elm - mesquite "woodland" I found Parus bicolor nesting and a ♂ P. atricristatus "hybrid" (see bicolor acc't) I drove E at 11:45 to Bastrop. Colorado River at Bastrop, \_\_\_\_\_, Bastrop Co., Texas

I spent the hour from 2:00 - 3:00 pm hunting along the river on the property of Mr. Long, who lives at the E edge of Bastrop. I collected one ~~tom~~ mouse. I also took a frog (# 555) from gravelly edge of a pool along a tributary brook and a Cnemidophorus (# 556). The latter seemed to be one of three individuals which used <sup>as a refuge</sup> a brush pile at the edge of the pool and the base of a steep smooth sandstone bank.

I left Bastrop after 3:00, noting post oak woodland of uplands extending along hwy to. 12 miles W Bastrop.





Apr. 15 6 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas - I picked up a Barned Owl freshly dead beside the road (post oak-blackjack on either side for miles) - I took plant specimens a mile west of where owl picked up.

Apr. 16. Onion Creek, 2 mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas. - Cloudy, windy day. I drove out to Onion Creek and made inquiries about collecting on property there. After 2½ hours and several miles, I met with 2 refusals. Having trouble with my radiator, I returned to Austin for repairs.

Apr. 17. Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
Sun obscured by partial overcast; calm. I reached area at 7:15 am and hunted in the river bottom or in juniper woods at base of hill to W until 11:00. From that time on I walked along boulder-covered streamcourse and hunted in trees there 'til 12:30. See acc't for Parus

Lizards were active after 10:30 - I took Sceloporus 559 on a bark-covered log and captured #560 on a fence post. See spec. acc't for Halbrookia. I took a ♀ Cardinal, a pair of chickadees and a White-eyed Vireo. New birds included the Hepatic Tanager.  
Spotted Towhee still present.

I rode to San Antonio for mail in the afternoon.

Apr. 18 8 mi. E, 3½ mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., N. Bastrop Co., Tex  
Overcast with light breeze from E. I was in area from 8:20 - 9:45 a.m. - see Parus bicolor acc't.

I drove to Bastrop and met the County Agent, Mr. D. B. McComb; he made arrangements for me to collect on private premises in the vicinity.



## Journal

Apr 18. 5 mi. W Bastrop, , Bastrop Co., Texas

I hunted on the property of Mr. Sam Higgins of Bastrop from 1:30 - 5:45 pm. It was a hot afternoon with some wind of variable velocity. I took one Cnemidophorus and saw others and noted Sceloporus on the tree trunks in this woodland of post oak and blackjack. See acc't for Panama bicolor

Apr 19. Bastrop, , Bastrop Co., Texas - warm, sunny day.

I hunted on the property of Mr. Cecil Long N of the railroad tracks from 10:50 - 11:45. In this area in mesquite-grass I saw Cnemidophorus frequently but had no. 22 and barrel. Birds inactive except in elms higher on slope. One titmouse heard there.

I picked up a frog (#574) in the gutter in Bastrop - water there suggested street had been washed.

I obtained permission to work on the property of Mr. A. Young after meeting him at 2:00 pm. I returned to Austin.

Apr. 20 Muginau Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas = 8 mi. E, 3 1/2 mi S

Delaware, Travis Co. IN Bastrop Co., Texas.

Overcast; dead calm. Shower at 4:00. Sun broke through, gusty wind to 10 mph after 11:00. I was in this area of mesquite - elm and of elm bottomland from 7:45 am until 11:45. See acc't under Panama. I returned to Austin and then moved to Bastrop to spend the night.

Apr 21. Rain fell during the early morning hours. Sun out, calm and warm by 9:00 am. I worked in same general area from 6:50 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. See under Panama and Panama carolinensis. The common lizard here seems to be a Sceloporus of which I took one (#577)



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Apr. 21 Mayfield Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas  
on Apr. 20. They prefer the base of elm trees from my casual  
observation. I took a Spinus pinus (#583) in  
a grassy place among the trees there today - they became  
active after 7:00 a.m. I saved an armadillo skull  
from scattered armadillo scum found in these woods.  
Birds seen in area:

Turkey Vulture

Belted Owl

Ladder-backs w/ pair.

Crested Flycatcher

Missouri-Texas Flycatcher

Empidonax sp.?

Crow

Parus → bicolor

Carolina Chickadee

Carolina Wren (heard)

Mourning Dove

Bluebird

White-eyed Vireo

Cardinal

Spotted Towhee (present on Apr 21)

Grasshopper Sparrow

White-crowned Sparrow

Tree Sparrow

Song Sparrow

I returned to Bastrop, had luncheon and drove to College  
Station, reaching there about 4:30 p.m.

Apr. 22 College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas - I was impressed  
with the change in aspect of the countryside in contrast to the  
conditions there in mid-March. Postoak and Staphylea trifoliata var.  
were fully leafed-out and many flowers were in bloom. See acct  
under Parus bicolor. I found a Horned Toad killed  
on a road and preserved it as # 588.

Apr. 23 I left College Station about 9:15, driving SW to Lyons, Burleson  
Co., then via Brenham to La Grange, Schulenburg and  
Luling in Caldwell County. Over this distance the forest of



Apr 23. En route, College Station to San Antonio, Bexar Co., Texas  
 post oak and blackjack oak prevailed. When I was within  
 2 or 3 miles of Seguin, Guadalupe Co., the forest of these species  
 appeared to drop out. There were elms along the Guadalupe  
 River W of town (judged from car) but mesquite with a few  
 elms prevailed to SW. Eastern Kingbird 9 mi. E San Antonio

I reached San Antonio about 3:00 and then drove toward  
 Beeville, arriving at 5:45. I stayed in town transacting  
 business until after 8:00 pm, then drove to the  
Claude Hard Ranch 8 mi. SE Beeville, Bee Co., Texas

I talked with the foreman, Mr. Ted Scott, who let me  
 take a badly-mashed "spreading cedar" to be preserved as  
 #589. He said that rattlesnakes were being met frequently  
 on the ranch now. I drove on to the Corrigan house,  
 noting a Raccoon and several coyotes along the way.

Apr. 24. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas -

Cloudy all day but no rain; wind strong from E.  
 I hunted in live oak - post oak area and took a pair of  
Lark Sparrows and a single ♂ (#543) all in this "savanna"  
 type growth. This bird is abundant here. One Catbird in  
 same area. Crested Flycatchers are conspicuously noisy  
 in this same habitat. I spent most of my time checking  
 on the thrush (see acc't). I was in this area from 6:55  
 until 10:10 a.m. WIND progressively stronger, making work  
 difficult. At the Corrigan home on the Transas River  
 I saw ♂ + ♀ Orchard Oriole moving along together.

In mid afternoon, I drove to Beeville. Farther N along the  
 creek ~~and~~ I took a Phrynosoma (#590) and saw a way  
Golden-fronted woodpecker in post oak - live oak savanna.





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Apr. 24. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Sheddmore, Bee Co., Texas. At 10:00 I took a ♀ Eastern Meadowlark in an area of Acacia - Prosopis grassland. It flew with another bird and seemed to be paired. ♂♂ were singing.

Apr. 25. Wind blew strongly throughout the night; no rain. I drove to the area near the windmill E of S-flowing tributary, arriving at 7:20 a.m. Rain fell lightly at intervals after 7:00 but the sand was scarcely wet an hour later. Winds diminished to 6-8 mph after 7:00 a.m. See titmouse account for details.

Baltimore Oriole ♂ seen in Liveoak

Painted Bunting ♂♂ established, singing from oak trees; one taken (#597). No ♀♀ seen. These birds seemed to me to be inhabiting areas with greater density of vegetation than the Lark Sparrows were in, i.e. more bushes interspersed among trees and trees in clumps in contrast to the "poor man's savanna", a very slight difference.

Blue Grosbeak one ♂ seen in oak tree

I left the area at 9:50, returning on my way to the highway. Along the road I took a Cnemidophorus (#598) at 3:45 pm. Upland Plover not seen in area

Claude Heard Ranch, 8 mi. SE Beaville, Bee Co., Texas

I took a Horned Toad (#599) in oak savanna near the ranchhouse at 4:00 pm. I drove on to Refugio, arriving at 4:40. I spent the night there - no rain

Apr. 26. Woodsboro, Refugio Co., Texas I drove here at 6:30 to meet the game warden, W.T. Harris. His wife said that he had been called over to San Patricio Co. and would not be able to accompany me that day.



Apr. 26 En route Woodboro, Refugio Co., to Victoria, Victoria Co., Texas

I drove through Refugio about 6:50 — for about 10 mi. to NE along US Hwy 77 there was brushland of mesquite and Acacia with small liveoaks intermingled or in small groves. Further along there was open prairie although doubtless few original grass species remain. Few trees or shrubs. Bottomland timber well developed along San Antonio River & a stream about 10 miles S of Victoria — liveoaks in this area also.

I reached Victoria about 8:00 and went to see the County Agent who referred me to the Game Warden, E. A. Marth. Mr. Marth appeared at 9:00 and said that he wouldn't be able to go with me but that he would give me a letter authorizing roadside shooting since few property owners permitted hunting.

I left Victoria at 9:30 and drove across the river, then NW along paved & gravel roads. About 2 mi W Victoria I picked up a Cliff Swallow with a broken wing — bird only slightly fat (#606). About 11 miles NW of the highway I took a pair of Amice and another pair beyond the settlement of Mission Valley. There 2 mi. NNE Mission Valley I picked up a racer (#601) along the road.

After 11:00 the wind came up and I started back to town. I stopped at the bridge over the Guadalupe about 2 mi SW Nursery, finding no birds but shot a Cnemidophorus (#600). I returned to Victoria at noon and then drove on to Refugio.

I had auto repairs made there and spent the night there.



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Apr. 27 Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 150 ft., Bee Co., Texas

I returned to the Heard Ranch from Refugio about 8:00 - sky overcast with slight breeze from SE. I spent an hour and 15 minutes along Spring Creek (see acc't for Parus) then returned to the house and packed. I left at 11:00 after checking along the river to identify the trees, all of which were fully leafed out (see Plant #446) (the tree which was leafless 3 weeks ago).

I drove to Beeville and departed from there at 3:15. I reached San Antonio about 5:30 and spent the night there.

Apr. 28 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas - I reached this area,

a ranch owned by Mr. Ed. Eisenhauer, at 8:30, having driven from San Antonio via Jourdanton. The uplands here were not cleared with "blackbrush" scattered through and were mesquite-covered with underbrush of Berberis, catclaw and other rigid-branched species and prickly pear. See acc't for Parus atricristatus. I noted cottontail rabbits <sup>throughout</sup> and a tree squirrel in elms along a creek. Sceloporus and Cnemidophorus - no snakes seen. Birds included:

Mourning Dove

Bewick Wren

Golden-fronted Woodpecker.

Mockingbird

Ladder-backed Woodpecker.

Cardinal

Painted Bunting

Crested Flycatcher

Lark Sparrow

I left area at 11:30 and drove N toward Hondo.

6 mi. SE Hondo, Medina Co., Texas - I picked up a rattlesnake (#609) freshly killed on road (neck broken) - dense brush on either side of road.

I drove in to Hondo and then west on U.S. Hwy 90 after 1:00 p.m.



Apr. 28 U.S. Hwy 90 Hondo, Medina Co., Texas to Del Rio, Val Verde Co., Texas

Cloudy but no rain. I could see hills N of Uvalde and entered rolling country W there. There seemed to be considerable brush clearing as a range improvement measure. However, areas apparently cleared several years ago were coming back with low shrubs, not grasses. There were good stands of timber along streams in this area. I reached Del Rio shortly after 4:00 and put up for the night. During the night rain fell but I did not judge it sufficient to bring out amphibians so I did not run the roads.

Apr. 29. U.S. Hwy 90, Del Rio to Alpine, Brewster Co., Texas

I departed from Del Rio about 9:30 pm and collected plants along the road 3 miles N of there. Last night's rain had soaked in. The plant species collected 3 mi N Del Rio were leguminose shrubs or trees, hackberry, or other plants, seemingly of "Tamaulipan Province" affinities. These prevailed to NW of Del Rio but often were stunted on slopes (the latter rocky with clay? outcrops). Some of the original brush may have been cleared and/or kept in stunted condition by overgrazing. In swales and along creeks, mesquite was well developed and ? blackbrush also grew. The growth form of plants and general aspect of upland slopes reminded me of the Sonoran desert vegetation.

A mile or two E of Pecos River, I saw first ocotillo plants (in flower at this time) I first saw creosote bush (also flowering) 4 mi. E Langtry. Along a tributary stream which I crossed a mile or so E Langtry was a good development





Apr. 29. U.S. Hwy 90, Del Rio to Alpine, Brewster Co., Texas

of mesquite along the bottom and some liveoak as well, the only possible timonae habitat I could see in the area.

Proceeding W from Langtry, creosote brush and the "Tamaulipan brush" species were mixed for 15 miles or so. During the next few miles a "break" occurred so that within 20 miles of Dryden Sonoran Desert creosote brush vegetation prevailed. Within 10 miles of ~~Dryden~~ <sup>Sanderson</sup>, there were junipers in tributary creek bottoms. Sanderson Canyon was a dry streambed and lacked extensive development of mesquite (few, scrubby). West of the town however there were hackberries.

With the increase in ~~elevation~~ <sup>elevation</sup> more grassland was evident in eastern Brewster County along the highway. I reached Alpine about 4:00 pm, ate dinner and departed an hour later, heading for Ft. Davis 22 miles to the NW.

Davis Mts., Jeff Davis Co., Texas. I drove through range country to reach the settlement of Ft. Davis, then on up Limpia Canyon with its oak covered slopes and on to Mt. Locke, over 6700 ft. in elevation. Oak and juniper prevailed over much of the slopes there above 6000 ft. but nearly all was fenced in. I returned to Limpia Canyon with its oak-covered slopes and camped for the night. WEATHER THREATENING, wind strong down canyon.

Apr. 30. 1 mi. NW Ft. Davis, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

I was on lower N-facing slope or in cottonwood-willow of stream bottom 6:00 - 10:30 a.m. The slopes were covered with rocks and boulders and were grassy with scattered live-oaks, gray oak, Emory oak(?) and Spanish(?) oak and juniper. Catclaw widespread.



Apr 30. 1 mi. NW Ft. Davis, 5000 ft., Jeff Davis Co., Texas

Mourning Dove	Yellowthroat
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	Pileolated Warbler
Scrub Jay (heard)	Yellow Warbler
Black-crested Titmouse	Cowbird
Bush-tit (flock)	Orchard Oriole
Canyon Wren (song)	Black-headed Grosbeak
Robin	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Townsend Solitaire	Brown Towhee (see acc't)
Chondestes	Spotted Towhee
Bell Vireo (singing, willows)	

I drove W out of Ft. Davis at 11:00 a.m. riding through grass-covered rangeland below the tree-line. At one point, perhaps 5400 ft elevation, there were trees ~~as~~ there were at Skillman's Grove, a settlement which I passed through. W there, the road dropped to lower elevations where grassland prevailed. The wind was blowing strongly. I passed through Valentine and noted dust storm in irrigated lands 10 mi. S Van Horn, Culberson Co., Texas. Driving W out of Van Horn, rain began to fall and temperature dropped noticeably. In the Quitman Mts. W Sierra Blanca, Hudspeth Co., Texas snow capped the peaks. Mourning Doves were common along the road. Near McHarg I saw Red wings and Great-tailed Grackles in irrigated fields. I was refused permission to collect one of the latter. The cold rain stopped about 2:30. I reached El Paso & put up for the night - it was cold and windy and rained lightly during the evening.



*Species accounts*



Reptiles





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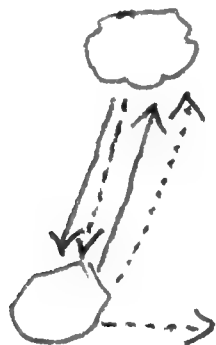
Holbrookia

Apr. 17 Barton Cr., 4 mi. S of Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Partial overcast obscuring sun - warm after 10:30; lizards active after that time. After 11:00 am I walked along dry, boulder-strewn streamcourse. The clay-like crust had dried and cracked forming plates 4-6 inches in diameter.

I flushed one Holbrookia from a brush pile at the edge of the streambottom after it had taken refuge there. It ran to a  $\pm 12"$  rock & crawled beneath it. I was able to capture it by hand by raising the rock.

I wounded another which sought refuge under a rock  $\pm 12"$  across. When I lifted the rock, the lizard ran about 20 ft to another rock & took refuge there. When I lifted the rock it ran to another  $\pm 10$  ft away; when sought there it returned to the first rock. The sequence was repeated before the lizard ran to a smaller rock to the W where I captured it.



(written from memory May 10)



Birds



Centurus aurifrons

March 5 arroyo S Harlingen, Cameron Co., Texas. overcast, calm.  
9:40 am ♂ perched clinging vertically to trunk of a dead  
palo verde. Bird repeated note tuck tuck tuck as I stood  
in open 50 ft away. Woodpecker flew to flat opuntia cactus  
& perched there, then flew down slope.

A few days earlier in observing this species on  
the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, Hidalgo County I was  
impressed with the flicker-like actions of this bird.  
One call "wick wick wick wick" was very similar  
to a call of Colaptes cafer.

Mch 19. 2 mi E Skidmore, 150 ft., Bee Co., Texas. I collected a  
♂ (#491) at the bunkhouse on the Driscoll property as it flew  
to several mesquite trees in succession. I was unable to  
prepare it as a skin but made a skeletal preparation. I did  
not encounter this species again in the Aransas River  
area E of Skidmore, March 19 - April 3.

Apr. 24. Spring Cr., 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas  
one in post oak - live oak savanna (mid afternoon)



Cyanocitta cristata

March 8. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

Call in oak woods a flat "cah cah" singly, then a squeal "tee-lee" and "ee-luh". The squeal given as though air were being expelled forcibly. Jay alone, no answering calls.

10:20 - four in woods N of clearing (3 together, 1 calling cah loudly from W). One bird flew uttering a weaker, abruptly-terminated "cah" several times in flight.

March 9. I watched a jay in a blackjack oak as it gave the tee-lee call. The bird bobbed noticeably lifting its body (with head held rigidly in position) with the first syllable, lowering it with the second.

March 14. 9 mi NW Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas. In two mornings of hunting I have not noted any Blue Jays in the post oak forest where I went with Mr. JF Wood. W of the road, the woods may have been <sup>too</sup> dense but I didn't see any along the streamcourse woodland-pasture border E of the road. The species list for this area & the woods E of College Station is similar except for Blue Jay.

April 7. Colorado River at Austin 650 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Riparian forest of cottonwood, box elder, willow. About 9:00 am HWP Phillips and I saw one Blue Jay in this forest  $\pm 100$  yards wide with poorly developed understory.

I returned 6:35 - 6:50 pm (leaving about sunset) and did not see this species.





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Cyanocitta cristata

Apr. 9. Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Canyon of the creek cuts deeply 100 - 150 ft into the edge of the Edwards Plateau. Slopes above the canyon are wooded with Juniperus mexicana, Spanish oak, a live oak and the cedar elm (latter closer to the creek) Creek not running at present. There are tall willows, elms, etc. and some sycamores on flat at edge of stream.

CLOUDY but CLEARING; CALM. yesterday morning and again today 7:30 - 8:30 I heard occasional calls of Blue Jays here on the Gaines Farm. Once two birds were calling alternately the nasal caah a single not repeated, the commonest note of this species. I am not sure that more than that number was present.

About 9:05 I heard a high pitched squeal which I did not record at the time and saw a Blue Jay in juniper at the top of a cliff 50 - 60 ft high on the S side of the creek below the bend where it turns E. (see map in thumb notes). I followed this bird and shot at it when I thought its perch was clear of the ledge. The bird dropped to the ground at the cliff top however but must have flown on, for I located it 100 yards to the E in oak - sycamore at the base of the cliff. Another Blue Jay was flying ahead of it. I shot the bird with a .38 which finished it (#542), a ♂ with Testis 7mm. This bird was not fat.

Apr. 22. 1 mi. E College Station, Brazos Co., Texas - In post oak woods at 6:30, three jays moving among trees. Nasal caah given frequently & once I heard the rusty gate-like <sup>croaking</sup> caaaa.



*Xanthornis yncas*

Feb 27. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

In newly-leaved trees around headquarters - seems to be paired. Saw one fight between two birds. One call sounds like "eck eck eck"; another like the "kuk kuk kuk" of the Steller Jay. I have heard also a call "kraaaa" a prolonged frog-like croak identical to a similar call of Apelocoma coerulescens.

Feb 28. Call like rusty gate-hinge given by bird this morning: kraaaa eee the latter of bass quality. The "eck-eck-eck" I heard given alternately by two birds, one somewhat higher-pitched than the other.

Mch 1. At 2:45 pm (clear, windy) a congress of not fewer than four Green jays were in a large broad-leaved tree the trunk of which was hollow and perhaps 30" in diameter (each of 2 main forks). The jays kept up a constant "ek ek ek" the din being interrupted momentarily only when I walked over to investigate. Some of the voices were definitely higher pitched than others (more nasal, less rasping).

Mch 5. arroyo S of Harlingen, Cameron Co., Texas - overcast, calm. 4 Green jays in mesquite patch. One flew 50 yards across opening calling "clock clock clock". 2 then last followed. As they flew first bird gave "rusty gate" call kraaaa ee



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Parus carolinensis

March 8. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

I heard a whistled song in oak woods at 8:20 see-too see-too and thought of a titmouse. Instead I found one long chichadee black-capped and bipped. It also gave a call sicka dyee very rapid and slurred. The latter it repeated over & over as it moved away in oak woods.

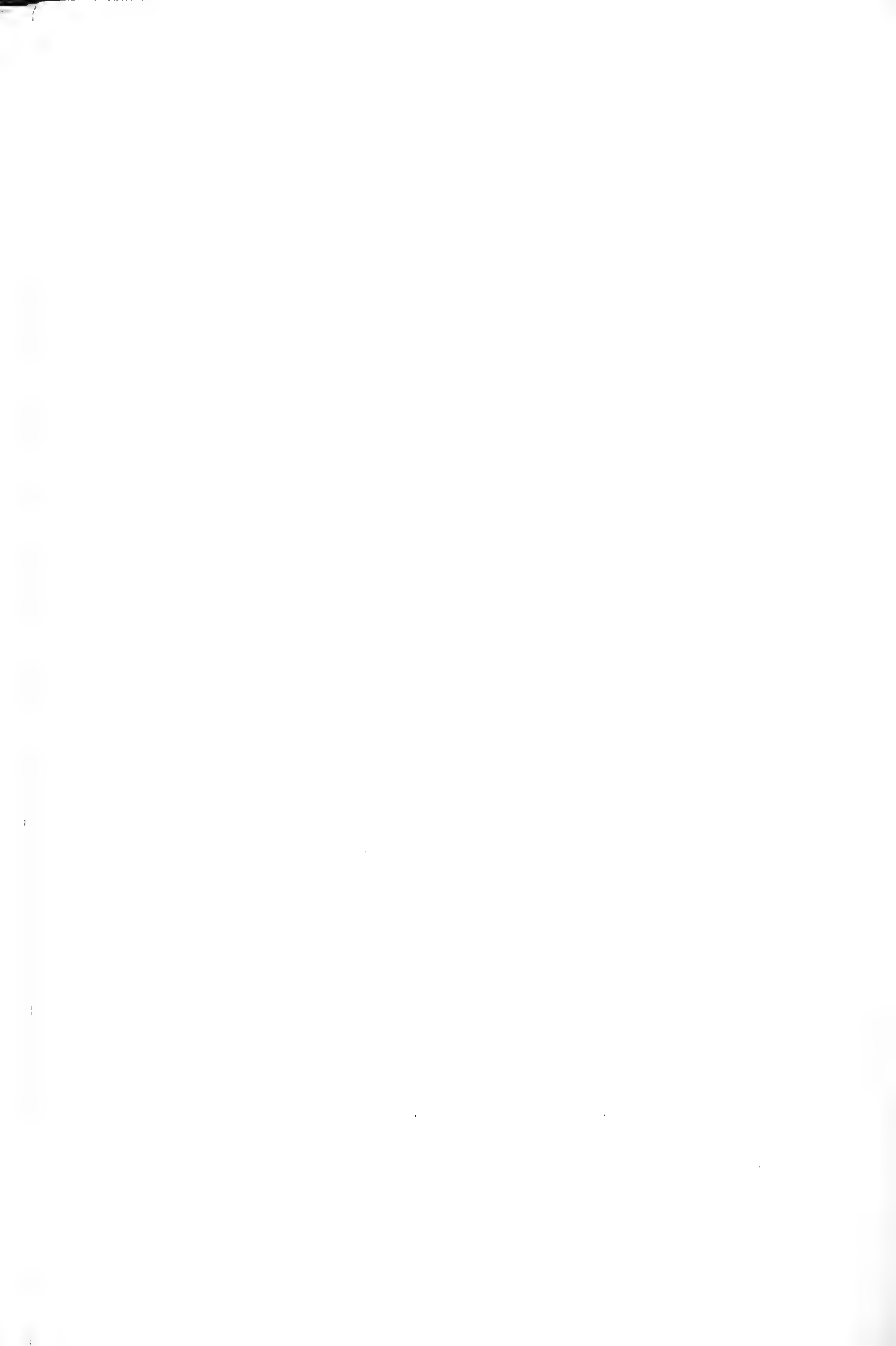
9:12 chichadee singing from post oak  
chee <sup>2</sup> cable then "ticha ticha ticha bee bee bee" slurred together rapidly. Then reverted to the song the first 2 notes of which seemed to be connected cheeca bee a melodious "phoebe-whistle" sort of song. Bird flew N across 60 yard clearing & continued to sing from woods there.

[see under P. bicolor - agitated chichadee calling kissadee dee dee at each burst of song "purity purity — —" believed to be from P. bicolor]

Another individual singing "tea kee-bee kee-bee"

9:35 pair to the S working on twig bark in post oaks occasional note tsit then "kibbabe" from one

9:50 in woods S of road quarrel involving 2 birds particularly although a 3rd figured in - ~~figured~~ <sup>liquid</sup> call "chee lee la bee" slurred together rapidly 3rd bird seemed to be mate of bird doing most of chasing as "she" dodged bird which was pursued consistently "chee lee cable" given several times and also skissadee dee "drier". Fight continued to W - no particular break in woods.



Parus carolinensis

Mch 8. 1 mi. E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

10:05 - squabble in woods 100 yards N of clearing  
tiddle-ee-yap slurred and "kissa kissa dee  
dee dee" slurred; also "kiddle-ee-yap yap" a  
continual chatter which carried well, making me  
feel that the birds actually were closer at hand.

Fight still going on at 10:25 song "clay see baw"  
exchanged by birds E & W; mate of W bird giving  
"kissadee dee dee dee daw"

10:35 "speel-yur speel-yur" and "ti di di di  
di dit" from 4 chickadees together in woods - 2  
calling farther E also

Pair came close to me "Ticha dee dee di di dit"  
"speel yur" (of one) and "see see see" high, thin  
(from excitement?)

At 6:25 pm (sun was setting) I heard calls of  
two birds to the SW of the Eidemiller residence (I had not  
noted this species there during the last 24 hours). The birds  
continued to call until approximately 6:32.

Mch 9. 9:50 chickadee in leafed out undershrub singing  
see-tee see-bee over & over, then a dry store-yap  
more titmouse like. Bird moved south into other shrubs  
& continued "see-tee see-bee"

Mch. 11. OVERCAST, CALM Chickadee began song see-tee at 6:25  
when overhead light intensity was 1.0 foot-candles (see  
under Parus bicolor for full particulars)





Parus carolinensis

Mch 13. 9 mi NW Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas. SUNNY, COLD (32° in Bryan at 8:00 am) WIND INCREASING FROM NORTH. The area I hunted in was chiefly post oak woodland with a fair amount of underbrush of Ilex and other species such as wild rose, blackberry. Shortly after 9:30 am I took a chickadee in a leafless oak (bird a ♀, #478). Its mate remained close by but I was unable to shoot it then. It gave its kissadee dee call steadily. About 10 minutes later the bird was calling from the same tree from which I had taken the ♀ — I collected the bird which was a ♂ (#479).

I took a lone chickadee later farther N in similar surroundings (see under Parus bicolor). [I marked all the birds in the field so their identities are correct.]

Mch 24. Live Oak Creek, 2½ mi. NE Somerset, Bexar Co., Texas

2:30 pm - cloudy. I noted a silent pair of Carolina Chickadees in deciduous growth along this streamcourse. Parus atricristatus also present.

Mch 29. Spring Creek, 6½ mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas - I noted

a Carolina Chickadee in post oak woods near live oaks along the creek about 8:43 am. A Black-nested Titmouse was inspecting a cavity in the oak when I heard the chickadee give a gurgling call. The titmouse chased it away and later showed antagonism, following the chickadee closely and scolding as the latter moved through some mesquites (in leaf). Later 150 yds SE (± 9:15) I shot at the chickadee (presumably the same one as other small birds in a flock had moved there) but did not take it. The chickadee disappeared and I was not able to locate it. I fear I may have wounded it & it died in a thicket



Parus carolinensis

Mar 30. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I looked in the area where I had seen the chickadee yesterday for fully 15 minutes but couldn't locate it. I worked through liveoaks further east but wasn't able to locate any chickadees. (See Parus spec. acc't.).

April 1 Aransas River 4 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

In an area about 1 mile upstream from the bridge (just west of the Driscoll property line 100 yards S of the river I heard song "chee-be, phoebe" and then saw a chickadee in dense liveoak - mesquite growth. It moved away quickly and I wasn't able to collect it. (9:00 am - cloudy - windy)

April 21. Mayhaw Cr., 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas. In elm-mesquite woodland about 9:00 I ran across a noisy brood of chickadees. The parents were active in feeding the young which remained stationary, waiting to be fed. The parents seemed to be doing most of the calling but I heard no song.



1.

Parus bicolor

March 8. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

high thin "see tee" from Titmouse in leafless oak at edge of clearing at 8:35 (I had heard song "purty purty purty purty" from that area to which agitated chickadee had alternated "hisadee deedee") Bird flew lower into scrubby oaks as Turkey Vulture hove into view. 8:42 Titmouse hopping upward in oak "see tee" somewhat plaintive over & over and "tick" - see tee the ticks infrequent, a "contact note" Bird appeared to be alone. I was impressed with the difficulty of following these birds, drab against the forest of upright gray trunks with their vertically furrowed bark.

8:46 - second tit in tree 20 ft to S silent. In answer to song from S<sup>E</sup>, bird I had been watching gave "tick-petew petew peter." After half a minute "he" flew without a sound across a firebreak to trees 60 feet to E. I was stopped by fence.

Song peter peter peter in answer to such song from woods to S (where I had searched 8:00 - 8:30 without finding any parids)

The black forehead shows up strikingly in these birds but I do not believe that they carry their crests as erectly as atricristatus. Silence until 9:00 then song "hew hew hew" or "ture ture" which I think in this case was mockingbird



*Parus bicolor*

March 8. 1 mile E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

The woods here consist of oak trees closely spaced. The "dominant" species (the only tall tree - perhaps 25 ft) is the post oak (*Q. stellata*) identified by Eidemiller by its leafless condition. There are a few Black Jack oaks (*Q. marilandica*) which are smaller and retain their dead leaves. There is a tall shrub layer, some plants of which <sup>(hawthorn)</sup> are out in fresh foliage (one ~~oak~~ <sup>Dlex</sup> species may be evergreen). There are also some smaller shrubs and grasses just breaking through the sandy ground.

According to Dr. Chas. La Motte, hickory is not common except along stream courses (he is Prof. of Botany at Texas A. & M.)

The day dawned clear but what appears to be fog rolled in and is breaking up now (9:10) BREEZE FROM SOUTH, VARIABLE VELOCITY, calm to 6 mph.

10:25 song wee to "we to we to" or "way tur way tur" from  $\pm 125$  yards N of fence - singer in 25' post oak flew 30 yards to W. Song "way tur" and scold "suh duh dut" and "sooh dut sooh dut" Silence at 10:32 (There had been song from E SW) At 10:35 "spell yur" (liquid) and sooh det det from chickadees to SW. 10:36 "Peter peter peter" from where Titmouse I had watched had flown. Silence after one minute! Then a "chuckadee" note hoarser I thought than that of carolinensis

10:46 Titmouse on exposed upper branch of oak with golden catkins singing "irick irick irick" Mate silent a yard lower in tree. Suddenly the





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3.

Parus bicolor

Mch 8. 1 mile E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas  
singer flew with no call (to E?) and mate also  
disappeared. No further activity in that vicinity.

Mch 9 OVERCAST, CALM. I was awakened at 6:35 am by a  
loud clear whistle repeated over peta peta peta peta  
and shortly thereafter, the Mockingbird's imitation, not  
so penetrating. I dressed and went outside the  
Eidemiller residence and crossed the creek. Walking  
S along a dirt street, I heard a call "see sa day day"  
hoarse and seemingly forced, i.e.: an impression  
that the call required effort. I worked W, then N  
on the next street and ran into a pair in tall post oaks.  
One bird seemed to be leading the way; it sang peta peta  
peta once and also gave a call see deh. Generally  
it was silent however & gave few sit notes. One  
bird flew E 30 yards & other followed. Both perched  
near broken off branch (a stub 1 ft long) One  
(which?) flew to W, other perched on twig about 2 ft  
from base of stub for  $\pm 2$  min, looking toward trunk  
of tree now & then. Both flew E & I left (7:05).

8:30 on Dr. LaMotte's place at back fence - Titmouse  
E of roadway singing "peter peter peter" moving up in  
oak foraging now & then - answering S from W  
mate not in evidence. Then song from W of me  
& Titmouse silent in same oak as  $\sigma$  sang from - this  
bird then gave single note repeated <sup>[not recorded  
at time]</sup> and flew  
W as  $\sigma$  song moved W



## bicolor

Mch 9

8:35 peter peter peter from large oak at edge of clearing - same from SW and tur tur tur from NW. Silently mate worked W along fence - singer restless hopping from branch to branch rarely picking at some object. Crest erect but "top" feathers simply not so long as those of atricristatus hence more posterior feathers most in evidence. Singer moved back into large post oak S of fence while mate in blackjack oak 100 ft W & N of fence. Singer gave petapeta and a single note louder than "sip" as though calling to mate. Latter, however, flew 60 ft to scrubby tree to SW and ♂ joined her there. "She" worked around peripheral twigs a yard above ground then dropped to gunny sack on grass then up into tree. Mate had gone W & "she" followed.

8:44 one bird more E from tree W cawed & gave vehement "ret ret ret" very hoarse over & over. Presently mate flew into adjacent oak. "Scolding" bird did not carry crest particularly erect, i.e. more like inornatus. This bird also gave note tsip as did mate. There may have been a boundary dispute although no song or calls from W at 8:44.

I lost track of the birds in writing notes. From 8:55 until 9:28 I walked through the La Motte's woods and heard no Amice. I hopped a fence to E and began working along a firebreak (= roadway). No Amice calls so I worked N into area across fence from where I had been yesterday.



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5.

bicolor

Mar 9. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

9:52 one bird in oak W fence flew SW; note there was a ~~titmouse~~

9:55 peter peter peter from middle of woods where 2<sup>nd</sup> bird had flown a couple of minutes before. No more <sup>vocal</sup> activity possibly because of my crashing over the leaves. I heard no more ~~titmice~~ in next 15 minutes in those woods so I crossed road & clearing into woods to N.

Passerines in general seemed to be less active than at this time yesterday. OVERCAST, calm.

10:24 - song from woods to S "peter peter" - I went back there but found no ~~titmice~~. 10:48 teter teter teter from woods 50 yards farther S and tree tree tree from woods E of firebreak. The one bird was well to the S (2<sup>nd</sup> property line at least) so I didn't try to locate it but moved N.

In the area of woods with burned off ground beneath (where I found pair after 10:00 yesterday) I heard song beaver beaver beaver at 11:15 and a similar song farther to the E. NW. Then singer closer to me stopped and I saw a chase involving 2 ~~titmice~~ in the woods some 40 ft away from me. <sup>11:18</sup> The pursuit was earnest, involving "tight turns" around tree trunks etc: NO CALL NOTES audible to me at that distance. Meanwhile song of distant bird continued. Was this a sexual chase or was there actually an interloper? Then song "beaver - -" from area where pursuit last seen but song lasted only a minute. No other call nor further activity. I moved on through the woods to S (4-bird quarrel among chickadees semnetae 50 ft to S)



## bicolor

Mch 9.

(The pursuit described above took place at N edge of burned area)

Shortly before 12:00 I heard song peta peta peta from fence area E of dried-up pond and an answering che-phoebe from a chickadee to W of me. (I was intent on roasting a lizard and I did not follow up the incident. The Titmouse song did not impress me as a mockingbird imitation) I left the area about 12:05.

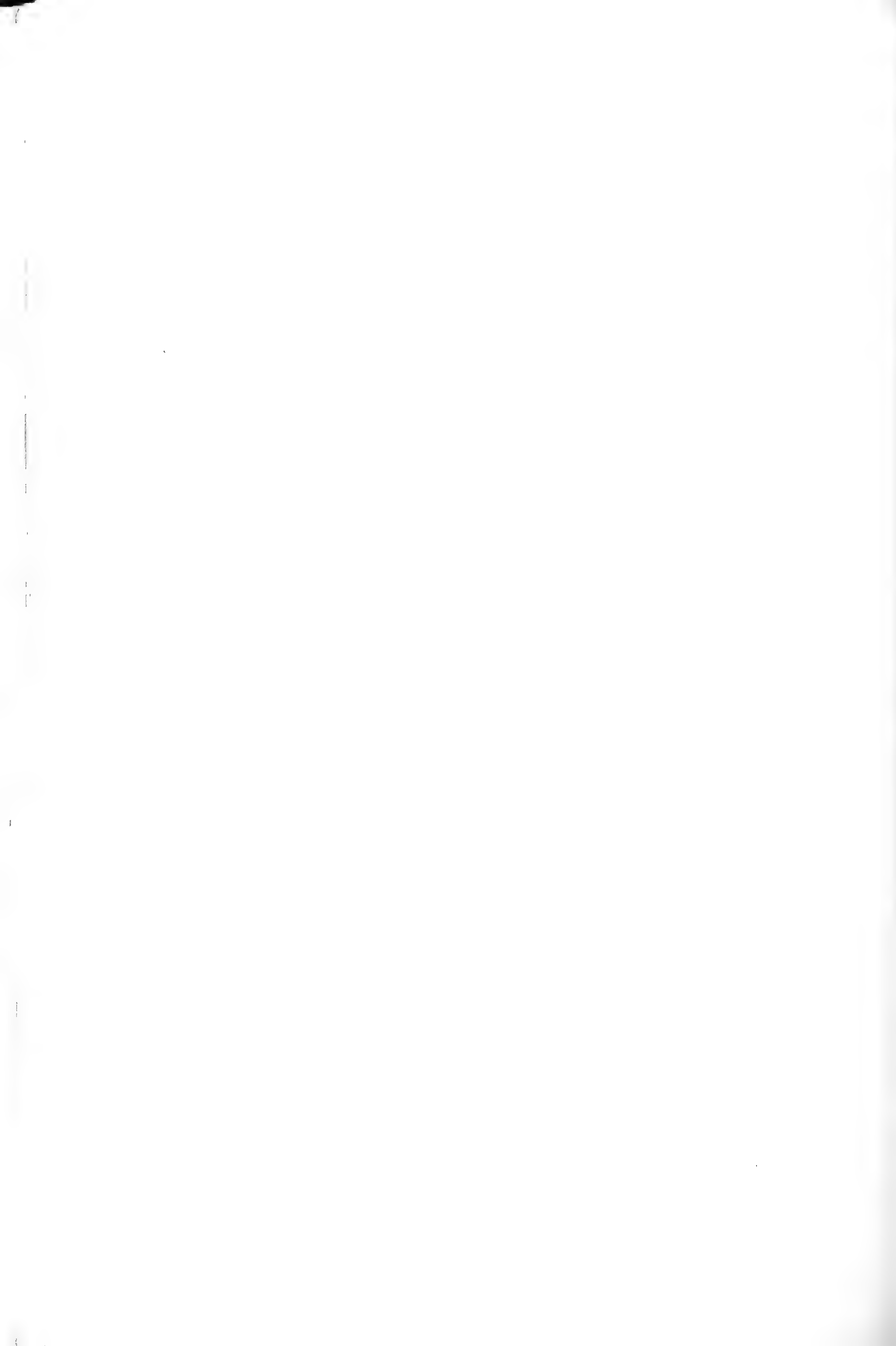
At 12:52 I heard song peter peter peter along streamcourse E of the Eidemiller house. I kept following the song, seeing nothing and eventually located the Titmouse close to the center of a small oak tree. The bird was active, picking at bark here and there, singing frequently. "He" changed to "tee-er tee-er" or "chee-er" which was essentially "peter peter". Once the bird sang purty purty then reverted to the song used earlier. I followed the bird across a street into another yard. It seemed to be alone. The black forehead and eye form a striking contrast to the whitish cheeks but <sup>there</sup> appear to be a merging of the black with the gray of the crest. The manner of holding the crest gives the bird a different profile in life from the Black crested

bicolor

rather than



Throughout the morning I was impressed with the general quietness of the birds, the lack of "habitual" use of "contact" notes. When song wasn't to be heard, I couldn't locate the Titmice.





## bicolor

Mch 9. 1 mi. E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

The bird I was following ceased singing about 1:02. Then I heard a "scold" cheh deh deh deh det given over & over by the bird in a tree 15 ft SE of where it had been singing. I saw a Flicker in the latter tree, possible cause of the disturbance. I left at that time.

Mch 10 OVERCAST - light breeze I awoke at 6:15 and heard

Mockingbirds singing. At 6:20 I heard the loud peta peta of a titmouse to NW of the Eidemiller residence.

Silence after 6:25 but about 5 min later, song from E.

Titmouse singing in oaks N of Dr Labmott's property at 6:38 - singer continued steadily (14 songs in one minute) Bird was active and shifted perch continually remaining in one patch of post oaks, however. Bird was alone here although I thought I heard occasional tsit notes to N. Singer flew N to Dr Andre's fence to oak there & I heard notes tsit --- closely spaced. This at 6:47. Singer in adjacent tree afterward but 2<sup>nd</sup> bird not seen

At 6:50 song "tury tury tury tury tury" very rapid series of phrases. This clear whistle was alternated with the "peter" song subsequently. I decided that this bird was possibly an unmated ♂ so I moved along

I walked E to the woods where I had worked during the past two mornings but heard no calls so I left at 7:15. Walked W to creek W Leonard Wing home and thence S and finally E to Eidemiller's at 7:48. No song nor bird sighted after 7:00 a.m. SUN SHINING 7:40



Specimens, Texas A. & M. College Collection

Parus bicolor (18)

♂ Feb 9, 1938 6 mi. SW College Station W.B. Davis 2939  
"beginning to sing"

general wear of olive brown of September specimens  
(dorsum) shows by February - definitely toward  
olive gray by then.

P. atricristatus Texas (17)

1 Chisos Mts. specimen appears grayer dorsally than  
Kerr Co. specimens

At least some June & early July juveniles have brownish  
bill (not black)

only 2 winter  
large Kerr Co. series; 1, San Saba; 1 LaSalle Co.

Coahuila (3) Sierra del Carmen (5800 ft.) April 3.  
(across Rio Grande from Big Bend Nat'l Park)

Nuevo Leon (3) Rio Ramon, 20 km NW Montemorelos, 1000 ft.

June 5-12



K Dixon  
1951

*Parus bicolor*

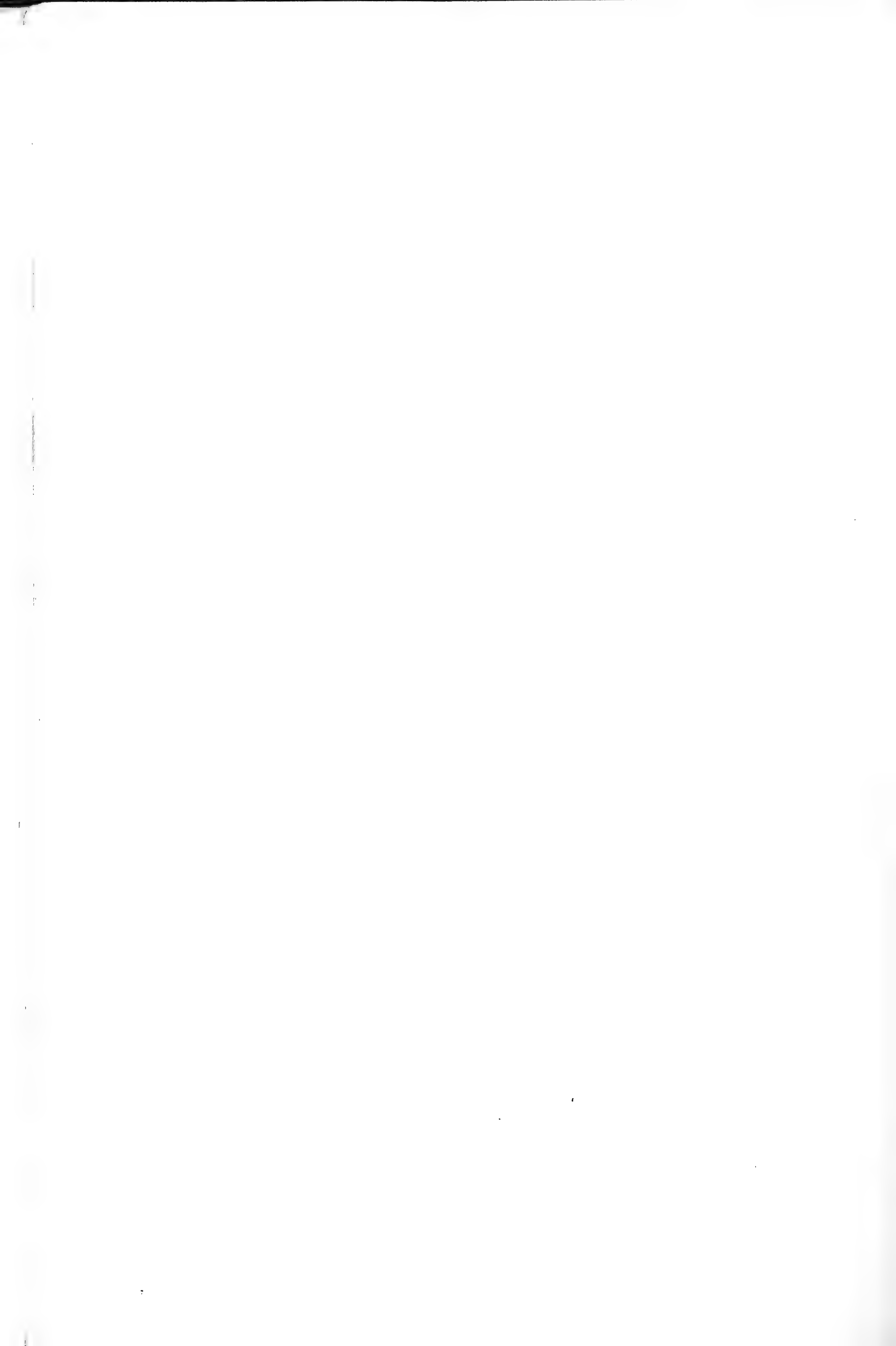
8.

Mar 10. 1 mi. E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

At 1:30 I heard song from E of the house. I suspect that this may have been the same bird heard this morning and at 1:00 pm yesterday in the same area.

In a conversation with Dr Charles H. Motte, a botanist and local resident, I was told that the Tufted Titmouse travels in small bands in winter — he mentioned the number 6 and spoke of lack of vocal expression as compared to the Carolina Chickadee.

- I left the house at 3:45 accompanied by D. J. Eidemiller. We walked E to the area I had worked in, then continued a couple of hundred yards ~~H~~ and several hundred yards E through a pasture and thinned out woods. The floor in the latter area appeared to have been burned two seasons ago. At 4:20 we heard a song peter — — —, from one bird apparently. By the time we reached the area where song had been heard the song had ceased. Then we heard a call "see dee dih" or "see dee dyih" a seemingly laborious thin call. I watched one individual giving the call; it opened its bill rather widely. Another bird several yards to the east gave the same call alternately with the bird I was watching. The latter seemed to be moving away toward the west (time 4:25 pm.) Area was in the middle of a wooded tract on level ground. I supposed that the calls were given alternately by the members of one pair until I saw a third bird moving in a westerly direction silently as though accompanying <sup>the westerly</sup> one of the individuals which was calling. The bird moving W became silent, the other continuing to call until



K Dixon  
1951

Parus bicolor

9.

Mch 10

1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

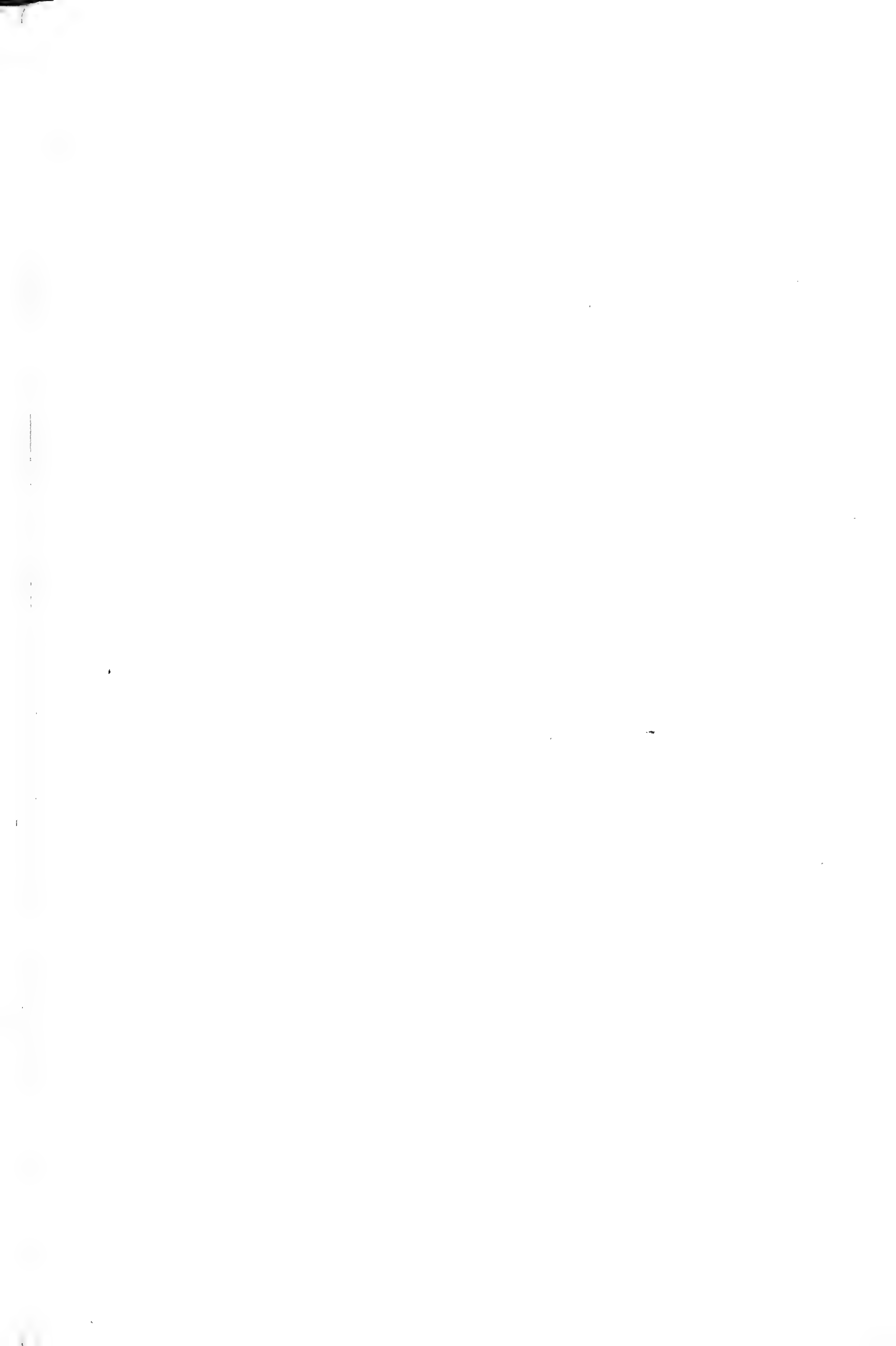
4:30. I moved W and caught up with the pair there along a small streamcourse leading NW. Both foraged in a fallen tree draped with Spanish moss; occasional Tsit notes were given. One bird, then the second flew W and we watched them foraging on small branches which were covered with foliose lichens. They gave some attention to the plate-like lichens. The two birds gave very soft contact notes rather frequently and definitely seemed to be a pair. No more loud calls nor song before the pair moved NW and out of sight at 4:40. We returned to the house via the same route but heard no more Titmouse calls.

Mch 11.

OVERCAST; CALM. I arose at 6:00 a.m. at which time I heard roosters crowing. At 6:05 I heard a Mockingbird singing; others sang subsequently. At 6:15 the light meter indicated no reading - no other birds singing. At 6:18 a Titmouse NW the house began singing "peter - -" from the same locality as the first song yesterday. At 6:20 the light meter indicated 0.5 foot-candles. At 6:22, Mourning Dove called - other birds began to be heard tsip of ? sparrow. At 6:25 Carolina Chickadee heard, meter read 1.0 foot candles (General Electric Light meter with hood off held vertically).

Mch 13.

9 mi. N<sup>W</sup> Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas. I was driven to this area by John Wood of the Texas Coop. Wildlife Unit, a student of fur-bearing mammals. The area I hunted in was a woodland similar to areas described above. The same bird fauna was present except that





K Dixon  
1957

Parus bicolor

10.

Mch. 13

9 mi. N ~~W~~ Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas

Blue Jays and Meadowlarks were absent. I noted one singing ♂ titmouse which kept moving and afforded me no opportunity to take it. The bird appeared to be alone. (10:00 am). Farther down the road I worked in an area similar also to the above-described type (post oak, blackjack evergreen shrubs). I called up birds by hissing and heard no titmice at first. At a second spot, I called a Carolina Chickadee after a few minutes and then a lone titmouse. The latter approached close to me (20 ft) then flew to 35 feet away in direction from whence it had come. From clump of leafless small trees there the bird called see cheyay see cheyay the first note higher pitched. Then it shifted perch and began to sing as I took it. This singing seemed to be in answer to song from the N along a creek  $\pm 50$  yds away. I did not see any sign of a mate. SUNNY, COLD, WIND  $\pm 12$  mph, gusty. General bird activity had decreased sharply after 10:00 am (Temp. in Bryan at 8:00 was  $32^{\circ}\text{F}$  predicted maximum for day was  $52^{\circ}\text{F}$ )

The ♂ Taken (#476) had a brown edging to the black forehead.

Mch 14.

I reached the same area (about 3 mi. <sup>N</sup> ~~W~~ Benchley P. O.) at 10:00 am and began hunting in the woods W the road where I had seen a titmouse about the same time yesterday. Shortly after 10:00 I became aware of the song peter — across the road and E of a pasture. I continued looking where I was, then went E about 10:20 and located the titmouse 10 minutes later; it had been singing continually.

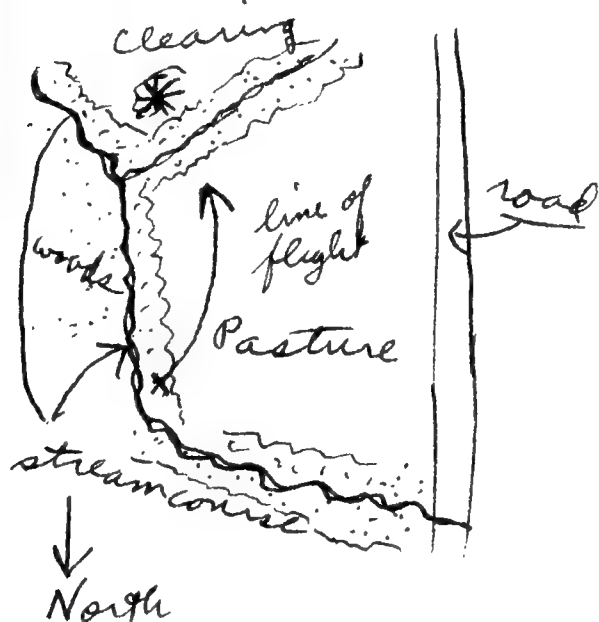


K Dixon  
1951

Parus bicolor

11.

Mch 14. 9 mi. <sup>NW</sup> ~~NE~~ Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas The Titmouse was singing from trees at the edge of the pasture at 10:30. It moved S rapidly along this "edge". At 10:40 it was still singing at the edge of a clearing (asterisk on map)



The bird continued singing peta peta peta; its nest was erect but little chestnut shaven on its flanks (covered by wing.) The bird appeared to be alone. After 10:40 the bird sang

more rapidly. At 10:44 it flew E to the other edge of the clearing and continued singing there. I left at that time.

I worked W into deep woods. Cattle grazing there. SUNNY, CALM. The woods here consisted chiefly of post oak, in some cases draped with Spanish moss. Some of the trees bore catkins. Undershrubs included hawthorn and 2 species of Ilex (both evergreen). The latter according to John Wood invade in areas of disturbance such as grazing. He thought that the climax consists of post oak woodland with grass covering the ground beneath and the undershrubs scattered. At 11:07 I heard a song

"riddle-yo riddle-yo riddle-yo riddle-ye" given several times. I saw a pair of Cardinals and a Titmouse in the area after song had ceased. (Source of song??) The pair of Titmice foraged on Twig bark but chiefly by hanging upside down to pick



Parus bicolor

Mich 14. 9 mi. NE Bryan in Robertson Co., Texas  
 at Spanish moss "beards" I lost track of the  
 birds after about 5 minutes of watching (at 11:20)  
 but during that ~~time~~ time they had given only contact  
 notes sup.

Mich 15. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

Clear, calm. D arose and left the house at 6:13. Mockingbird  
 and Carolina Chickadee singing - light intensity 0.5 foot-candles.  
 At 6:15, 1.0 foot-candles. At 6:17 I heard Tufted Titmouse  
 sing for the first time (peta - -).

I came out at 6:25 but heard no Titmouse vocalization.

6:37 same song NW in wooded lot (first since 6:25)

One bird silent flew to lawn from catkin-studded post  
 oak, then up to oak above. Down to lawn and hopped  
 at 6:39 - tree W then to singing & down to lawn at  
 6:40 - up with acorn, then down

6:42 2 intree at W end of lawn - one sang  
 peta - - then after a pause flew across road.  
 Mate did not follow immediately, flying then only to tree  
 at edge of road.

6:46 singer alone moved back E and located mate at  
 E end of lawn in post oak - when this happened  
 song stopped - I heard no notes as they were reunited  
 Location note to it later

I see yup like <sup>liquid</sup> sucking through straw at 6:49

I see day - - on ground.

I see yup or tsee sup by bird with foot in beak  
 Same call by bird which flew across road at 6:52



K Dixon  
1951

13

Parus bicolor

Mar 15. 1 mi. E College Station, Brazos Co., Texas

Tree sup (latter note hoarse) repeated

Bird on branch at 6:55 warily picking at something held between feet - bird looked up at every tug with bill. When finished, it reversed position on perch. See cheyup from bush at base of that shrub - bird flew from there & I heard volley of sit-sit-sit notes. Then one bird flew to tree 25 ft N.

6:58 from that tree harsh chui-dub-dub-dub but over & over for some time. Bird giving call flew higher in tree its foot movement visible. It tree 30 feet west at 6:59. Bird returned until shortly afterward caller disappeared toward the creek to the W - second bird not seen.

I was impressed with the type of situation when the note tree-sup or see cheyup was used; the caller seemed to be calling the other bird to come to it (to be fed? in one case).

8:10-8:25 I searched stream E of road and near stream and noted previously. At 8:20 song note from stream NE of dried up pond - (song also from SW - gone bird). Titmouse in tree at E end of "firebreak" singing, flew to tree N then across firebreak to post oaks west giving tsit in flight. Silent there for a few seconds, then began peta-peta song. Mate flew to several trees in turn, then across to join singer (no demonstration nor calls). The two worked W rapidly, the "♂" singing, the "♀" foraging, giving now and then a note tsit. Silence at 8:37.





Parus bicolor

Mch 15. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

From a considerable distance W I heard calls at 8:40,  
harsh "scolding" calls

see see see det det det

det det vet vet vet

hoarser more nasal after 8:43

Mate silent nearby. 2 pairs of chickadees calling  
and singing also mockingbird (Cater the canal)

Silent for <sup>one</sup> minute after 8:45 then "nep-nip" "nep-nip"  
or benk-benk, possibly correlated with fresh chickadee  
outburst. Scolding ~~to~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~haw~~ <sup>near</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>whistle of rising inflection</sup> ~~chickadee~~ <sup>song</sup> Three three three three 4, 4, 4, 5,  
5, 3, 5, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 5, 4, 4

Peta-peta from SW at 8:49 slow as above song, not d.  
Mate foraged in young post-oak giving test infrequently.  
Singing here from saplings at edge of a clearing. song from  
SW and from NW 150 yds across clearing

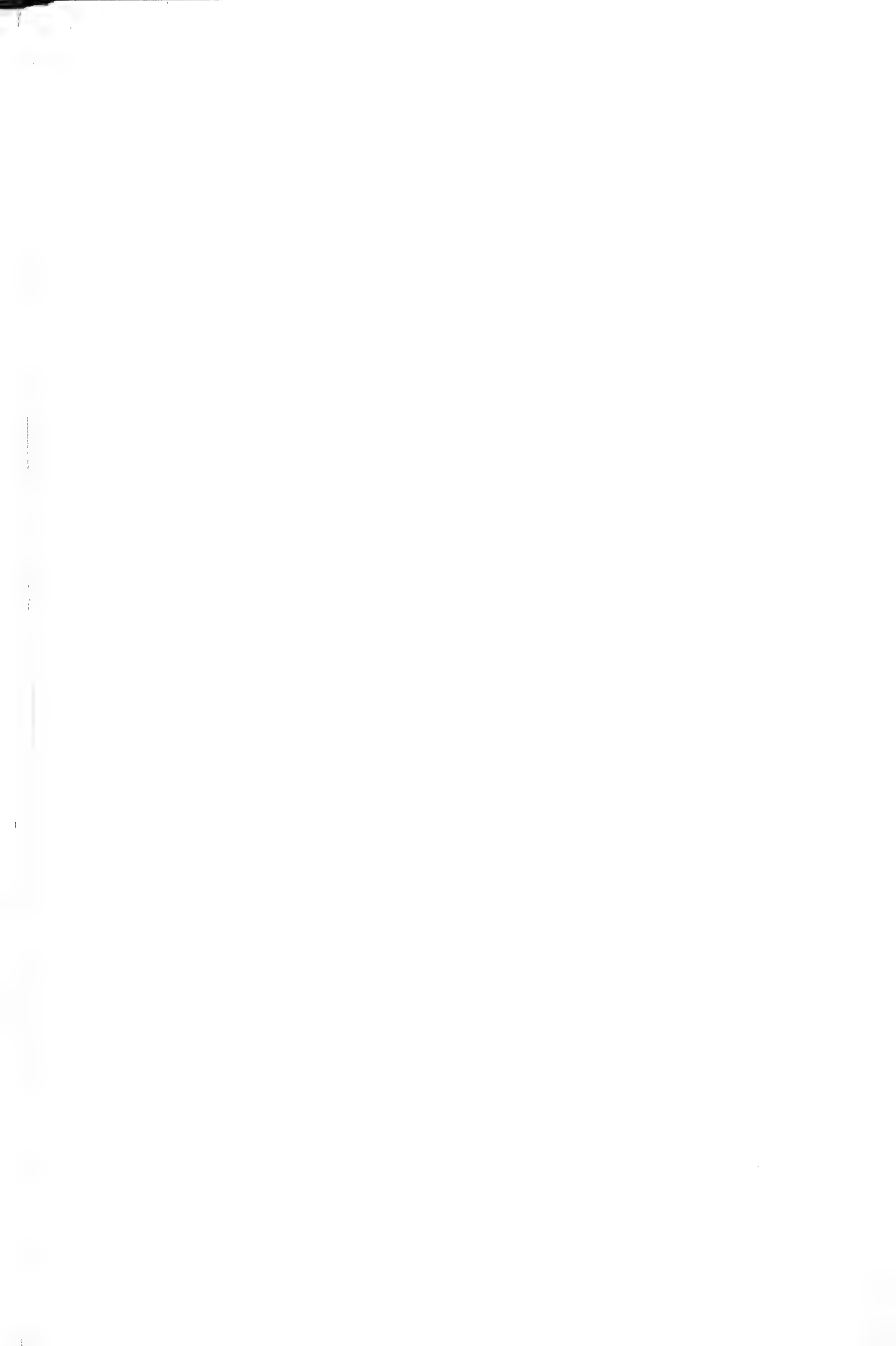
8:53 test test of foraging bird as song stopped.  
Song resumed from 30 ft SW. Mate foraged in post oak  
(Three — — — — from new position) 9:51 singer  
farther SW, mate following along

Tree tree tree tree tree very rapid near power lines

Actual fight involving approach threat and  
pursuit in flight at 10:00 W power line

Kee-siva and chuk-chuk dub-dub det. Kee-seyit  
even, measured from 3rd bird to E in exchange with  
another unseen bird — kee see, yet

song tree — — — and scold from white bird



# *Parus bicolor*

Mar 15. 1 mi ~~SE~~ E College Station

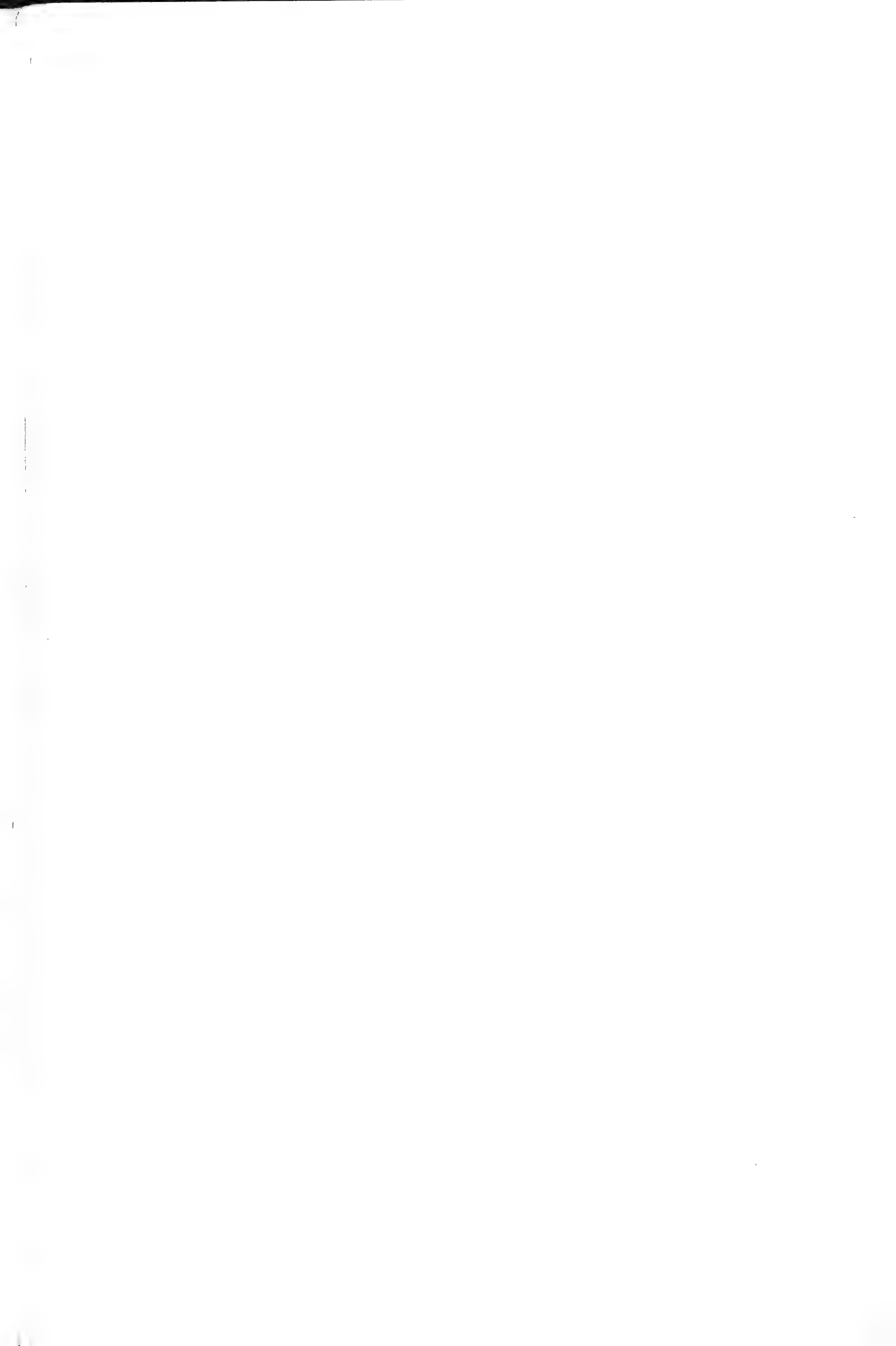
tee tee tee song continued; fight between <sup>2</sup> birds  
neither singing while song went on (these females?)

9:06 sequence broken as I approached too close  
9:08 song tower — — in 50' from both birds now  
20 yards apart about due S of white house, E. singer  
just E of power line. Song *peeta peeta* from bird in  
all this while. Pair of chickadees added confusion

Mate of E singer foraged silently on brown water  
even of stumps within a yard of the ground. returned at  
9:12. Resumed a minute later. Bird of pair in same  
where E (♀?) foraging for E song tower to W and flying  
to W. tee pleen pleen melodic given by bird

ank ank ank ank by only one bird of each pair  
After exchange of this call E pair retired to same 40' fit  
to E at 9:16. — See see vet out out vehemently  
given by one E bird other see see see trill. is this  
a chickadee? — W bird sang *peeta peeta* still at 9:20

as it flew W — there followed a matter involving  
four birds the tee pleen note being given  
frequently as actual combat took place. I couldn't  
tell which birds were giving this, whether ♂ or ♀ only or one  
member of a couple of fighters. The birds when passing  
acted alert with feathers fluffed out (on head at least).  
They switched their tails and fluttered their wings  
(I saw both combatants do this once). While all four  
birds were involved, my impression was that ~~any~~ <sup>any</sup> one bird



K Dixon  
1951

16.

Parus bicolor

Mar 15. 1 mi E College Station

was engaged by only one other bird at a time. Tee pleen was the only note I heard during the actual combat. After several "rounds" of pursuit and actual combat where "interlocked" individuals floated toward earth while apparently pecking at each other and doing wing beating. This combat occurred beneath the telephone wires. The E pair retired a few yards to E and one bird of pair commenced ank ank notes, answered by only one bird of W pair. (See boxed in place on other page for 9:16 - 9:20).

At 9:22, dry "peta-peta" from E bird. This pair moved NE and by 9:28 was exchanging song with Titmouse further N. Silence but at 9:37 saw new beaver beaver from E of same birds.

I worked area of woodland S of road where I had been this a.m. and also area N as far as birds seen. <sup>No</sup> activity

At 5:43 two Titmice at north edge of woods S plowed field - tail very soft given by both. Titmice not active one perched high in post oak turned to right, left, right, center, through 45° of arc - dogs barking to W - it perched there for  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$  minute. Neither Titmouse foraging actively in contrast to Carolina Chickadee pair in same tree. One bird perched high in sunlight occupied same perch for 3 min until 5:53. It had preened feathers of both wings & back.

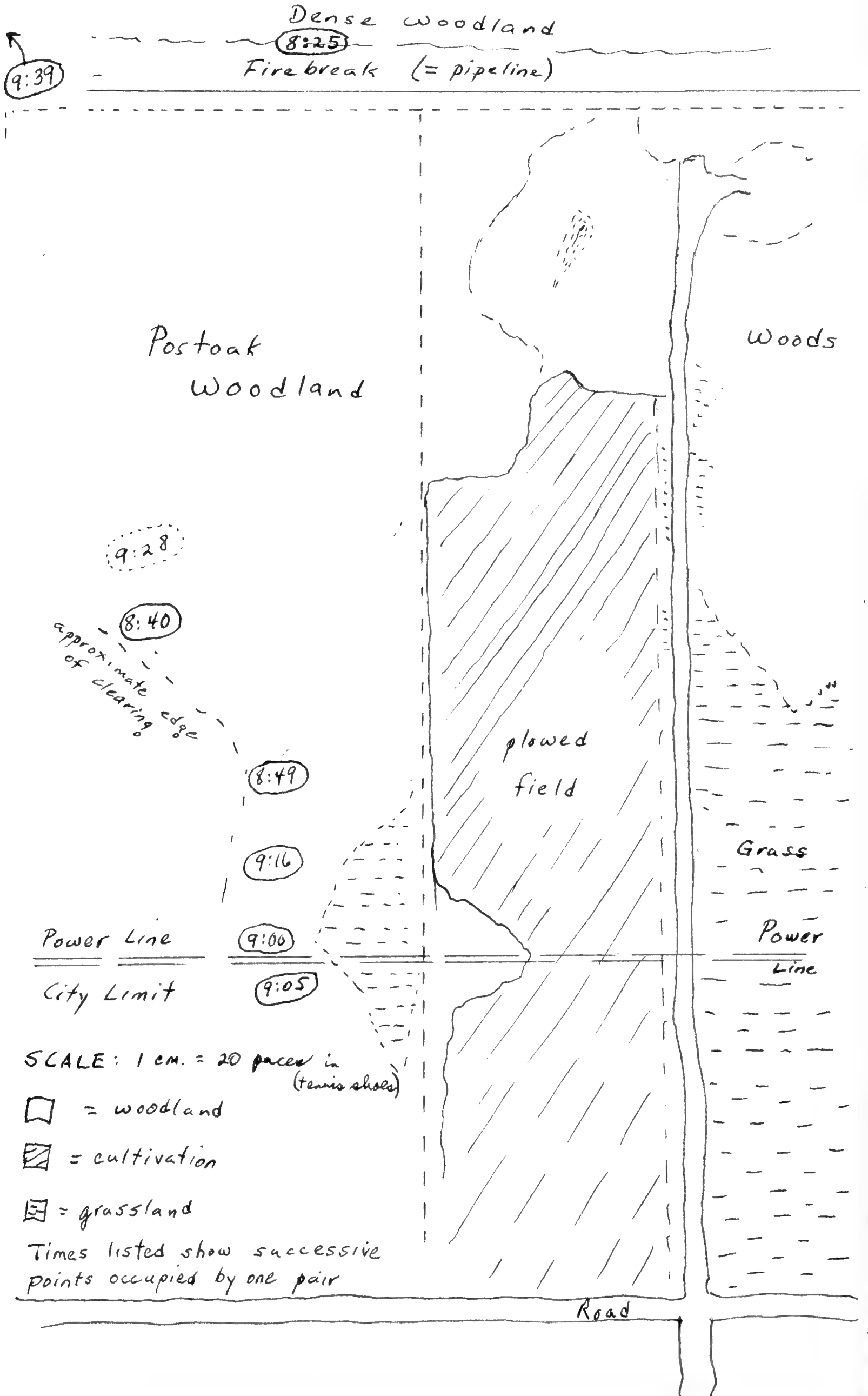


K Dixon  
1951

Parus bicolor

12

Mar. 15. 1 mi. E College Station, Brazos Co., Texas







Mch 15,

5:54 male in tree to E & other joined it, male worked on foliose lichen covered bark to some extent whereas bird which had joined it basked in sun for most part. More active bird working through smaller branches steadily but picked at objects very seldom.

"Barker" started at another ~~tit~~ mouse nearby on limb of W oak

5:59 chee tooey as "pursued" flew to nest oak W and "Barker" followed not active pursuit. Mate of Barker followed. At 6:02 3 ~~tit~~ mice in top of tree to W. One followed another in the mildest sort of lead up to a possible approach threat. Pursued then - feed lower than other two in extreme top of post oak. At 6:04 one of the top birds flew to oaks N of grassy clearing E of plowed field. <sup>uttering tsit tsit tsit in flight</sup> Bird lower in tree followed, then other topmost bird. Across the glade I could hear chub dub dut and here some antagonism was shown. One bird foraged & I saw two in oaks 30 ft SE - no pursuit, just wary watching. One of the two apparently left and I watched the other as it moved along W. A chickadee brawl was taking place simultaneously and I thought that two chickadees were following the ~~tit~~ mouse. They went straight as it turned however. The latter gave a chickadee call at 6:11, then perched in the crotch of a heavy twig in a post oak sapling 6 ft above ground. It remained there perhaps a minute but moved on as a pair of chickadees moved into adjacent tree. One chickadee actually explored tree where ~~tit~~ mouse had been.



*Parus bicolor*

Mch 15. 1 mi E College Station, Brazos Co., Texas.

The Titmouse flew SW to another oak where another chickadee was and I lost track of it. No more Titmouse activity although chickadees were active for several minutes. Silence well before 6:20. Sun setting at 6:30.

In comparing notes with Prof. W. B. Davis, each of us agreed that the Tufted Titmouse in this area was found in the uplands and not just along streamcourses.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus bicolor

Apr. 8. 8 mi. E <sup>3 1/2 mi. S</sup> Delvalle, Travis Co. <sup>in Bastrop Co., Texas</sup> ~~Fayette~~. I was taken to this area virtually at the eastern boundary of Travis County by Mr. Edward Kincaid of Austin. It may be reached by driving about 1 1/2 to 2 miles S of Delvalle and then driving 6 miles E on a gravel road. SUNNY, CALM. We stopped in an area of woodland to S of the road, chiefly cedar elm but hackberry present and mesquite also away from the brook. Kincaid said that a tongue of mesquite extended into this area from the SW. We arrived about 4:00 pm and walked around for some time without hearing any titmice. (Kincaid had seen a party here last Sunday). We heard song to E about 4:20 and then saw a titmouse fly along the brook and we watched it forage in cedar elms. It disappeared to the N across the road into ~~an~~ area of mesquite. About 4:40 a titmouse flew in from the N of the brook and we watched it again. In both cases the bird had a black forehead and gray crest? same bird both times? This bird flew but we were unable to locate its destination. At about 4:50 we crossed the road into the mesquite, working to NE of the area of cedar elms along the brook.

About 5:00 we heard song peter peter peter from SE across the road and thought our bird had gone there (I had diagnosed this situation as being a silent ♂ foraging for food for incubating mate & had expected him to appear with her any moment). Then Kincaid saw a bird enter bush at the base of a mesquite - it came out and sang peter — — from a mesquite



Parus bicolor

[actually 15 mi. W Bastrop, IN Bastrop Co., Texas]

Apr 8 7 mi E Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas

behind us at 5:04 then flew S across the road.

We moved to a point 20 ft or so NW the mesquite with bush clump and at 5:06 a bird flew in from due S and entered cavity in mesquite trunk. It appeared at the opening with fecal sac in bill; crest gray.

5:10 bird leaving nest (approach from SW) with gray crest, black forehead.

± 5:15 as at 5:10

5:25 bird flew from SW and entered nest directly not via several perches in shrubbery as bird had done on preceding visits. Forehead black. Bird removed fecal sac.

- 5:41. Bird reached nest indirectly (via shrubbery) Black of the forehead seemed duller than that of preceding visitor

5:52 as at 5:41

We moved over to inspect the nest — at odd intervals we had heard calls of young inside from 20-25 feet away. Cavity in somewhat inclined mesquite trunk 5 1/2 ft above ground. Entrance screened by hackberry sapling (which may not have been in leaf when nesting begun). Shrubs beneath mesquite included Berberis trifoliatum (= my #410), Opuntia, Mexican persimmon (fide Kinkaid)

The parent bird or birds did not forage in the mesquites while we were there but always flew S to the woodland across the road. My impression





Parus bicolor

Apr. 8. 7 mi E Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas

was that two birds were present for the following reasons:

- ① Close spacing of visits at 5:04 and 5:06
- ② Differences in routes of approach
- ③ apparent duller and narrower forehead marking of bird which visited nest at 5:41 and 5:52 (noticed then in contrast to bird at 5:25). My notion is that the ♂ visited nest at 5:04 and 5:25 and the ♀ at 5:06, 5:10, 5:15, 5:41, and 5:52 p.m.

We left the area at 6:00. Bird to SE did not sing again. Kincaid said he had seen Black-crested Titmouse near here. He calls any ~~mouse~~ Black-crested unless it has a black forehead and says that both types are distributed without particular habitat preferences but that the Tufted is very rare in the Austin region. Kincaid seems keenly interested in birds generally and seems reliable. He said this was the first ~~mouse~~ nest he had ever seen. Also in area where nest seen we heard ladder-bird wdplu. 3 or 4 miles W was a point (mesquite) easternmost area where Kincaid had seen Curve billed Thrasher in Texas.

15.  
Apr 8 Overcast; light W breeze. I approached the nest & heard Peta - - and then Tsit from S of nest - ~~mouse~~ with food approached from S, Tsit sit sit with wing flutter in periphery of tree, to nest by several steps - out with fecal sac Tsit in flight as it flew S.

Peta Peta Peta from S at 10:21 - repeated



Apr. 15 7 mi E Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas - At 10:35 I started S across the road into the mesquite-elm from which I had heard songs. I reached a dam built for a "tank" which had a little water in it at 10:45, and watched W where I could hear two ~~thrushes~~ exchanging songs.

I saw one ~~thrush~~ on W side of a pipeline, black forehead gray crest and another to W with white forehead and gray crest. Former sang from elms there then flew E to mesquite & sang from there. Bird in elm-mesquite row did not sing in response & I thought it was a ♀. It had food in beak & I shot at it with ~~slingshot~~ - It flew to several perches in succession, circling west, then S. It called sivut ut several times, then to my surprise burst into song kiva ~ ~ ~ (peta -) first from elm S of W stump, then to E. Song commenced 11:03 continuing - at 11:09 answer from NE

Song changed to payta payta payta at 11:10 occasional song from SW too. At 11:21 tury ~ ~ ~ very rapid - same song from NE once, then intermittently for several minutes. Song interrupted at 11:24 then kiva kiva ~ ~ ~ answered by tree ~ ~ ~ NE. Bird I was watching was on twig of leafless elm where it had been at 11:02.

Song exchange still going on as I moved N at 11:32. I walked along a brook course for what seemed to me to be 75 yards before sighting the road.

At 11:38 a ~~thrush~~ (bicolor) flew S across the road from nest area. Probably (her) mate engaged in song to S.



K Dixon  
1951

*Parus bicolor*

Apr. 15. 7 mi. E Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas. The ♂ which sang from 11:03 on may have been unmated. I had an impression of having seen 2 birds in a dead tree (the "E stump" of previous page) prior to 11:00 — that may have been the two contesting ♂♂ there.

N of the road there seems to be almost pure ~~juniper~~<sup>mesquite</sup> but S of the road, a mixture of "cedar elm" and mesquite.

Colorado River at Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas. I drove along the "posted" S bank of the river 1:15 — 1:30 and heard several singing ~~titmice~~. I then drove E of town & north of the river and talked with a Mr. Long who permitted me to hunt on his property. I followed a tributary to where it opened into the river and, after some delay, took a ♂ ~~titmouse~~ (#557) which had been singing continually in willows and cottonwoods along the river front. No answering songs. I worked back upstream but did not encounter any other ~~titmice~~ and left at 3:00.

The hills W of Bastrop are covered with a woodland of oaks, post oak and blackjack (I believe) with cypress scattered throughout. As I drove W on U.S. Hwy 290 toward Austin I found this to be the prevailing upland association until I was about 12 miles W Bastrop. At this point mesquites begin to appear and there are many acres under cultivation on to the westward. Within 2 miles or so is the turn off to reach the locality where I watched the Tufted Titmouse nest (7 mi. E Delvalle). Thus the break in the forest coincides roughly with the Bastrop — Travis county line.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus bicolor

Apr. 18 8 mi. E, 3 1/2 mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., in Bastrop Co., Texas

Complete overcast; light breeze from E. I reached this area, visited Apr. 8 and 15 by driving E from Delvalle 7.5 miles, turning S on gravel road 3.5 miles to first intersection, then driving E 0.5 miles. I reached the area at 8:20 and proceeded to the nest which lies by compass NNE of the first telephone pole E of the pond.

At 8:26 a Titmouse flew S toward the road as I approached the nest. I heard song from that quarter subsequently.

At 8:33 a Titmouse approached the mesquite from SW and perched within a foot of ground on procumbent limb - 3 perches in succession, then entered nest & out with fecal sac (food in bill green) - simultaneously I heard song of 2 Titmice peta peta and peer peer peer faintly to E

I walked S into property S of road at 8:40 WIND STRONGER FROM SE, to 10-12 mph. I crossed the pipeline & telephone wire, both of which extend E-W and on into mesquite with a few scrubby elms. I heard song exchange of two Titmice kiva kiva of ♂ to S (N bird silenced as I approached) I followed S bird 8:45 - 9:00 but had only one glimpse but impression of blackish on frontal area. Song answered by birds to S and W, the latter perhaps the bleached ♂ seen Apr 15. Silence at 9:00 Bird sang again at 9:06 and I located it in dead elm & watched it as it moved actively through adjacent mesquites & elms. Song from N briefly at 9:10. Silence at 9:15 - song resumed at 9:17 with song from SW and NW also. Bird silent again at 9:21 after intermittent song.





Apr. 18 8 mi. E, 3 1/2 mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., in Bastrop Co., Texas

I saw the Titmouse - gray crest, pale chestnut forehead but appeared blackish crested from rear. Bird foraged giving rather frequent sit notes song again at 9:23 I walked N 75 yds to brook course where I had seen him first. He still sang at 9:27. I found that I had been W of tank instead of E and located dead tree landmarks which indicated that the bird watched this morning was the ♂ seen Apr 15.

I departed and drove into Bastrop where I met the County Agent, Mr. D.B. McCoub. He made arrangements for me to hunt during the afternoon on the property of Mr. Sam Higgins. After lunch I drove W on Hwy 290 for 5 miles, then proceeded N through a locked gate for about 1/4 mile (gate is 1.8 miles W <sup>San Marcos</sup> Hwy junction = Texas #20) <sub>5 mi W Bastrop</sub> I reached this area post oak - blackjack oak timber with scattered cypress trees at 1:30. The underbrush had been burned and grass was sprouting in many places. The young cypress trees showed effects of the burning, particularly. In one place I found some other trees ( <sup># 442</sup> ).

I heard Titmice singing intermittently and took a ♂ (#570) perched in a post oak preening at 1:50. Thereafter I hunted to N and W following one wary ♂ which sang infrequently. I gave this up at 3:00, the bird being in rather open timber, and drove 300 yds E. At about 3:25 I took a second ♂ #571 one of 3 engaged in song exchange. This bird seemed

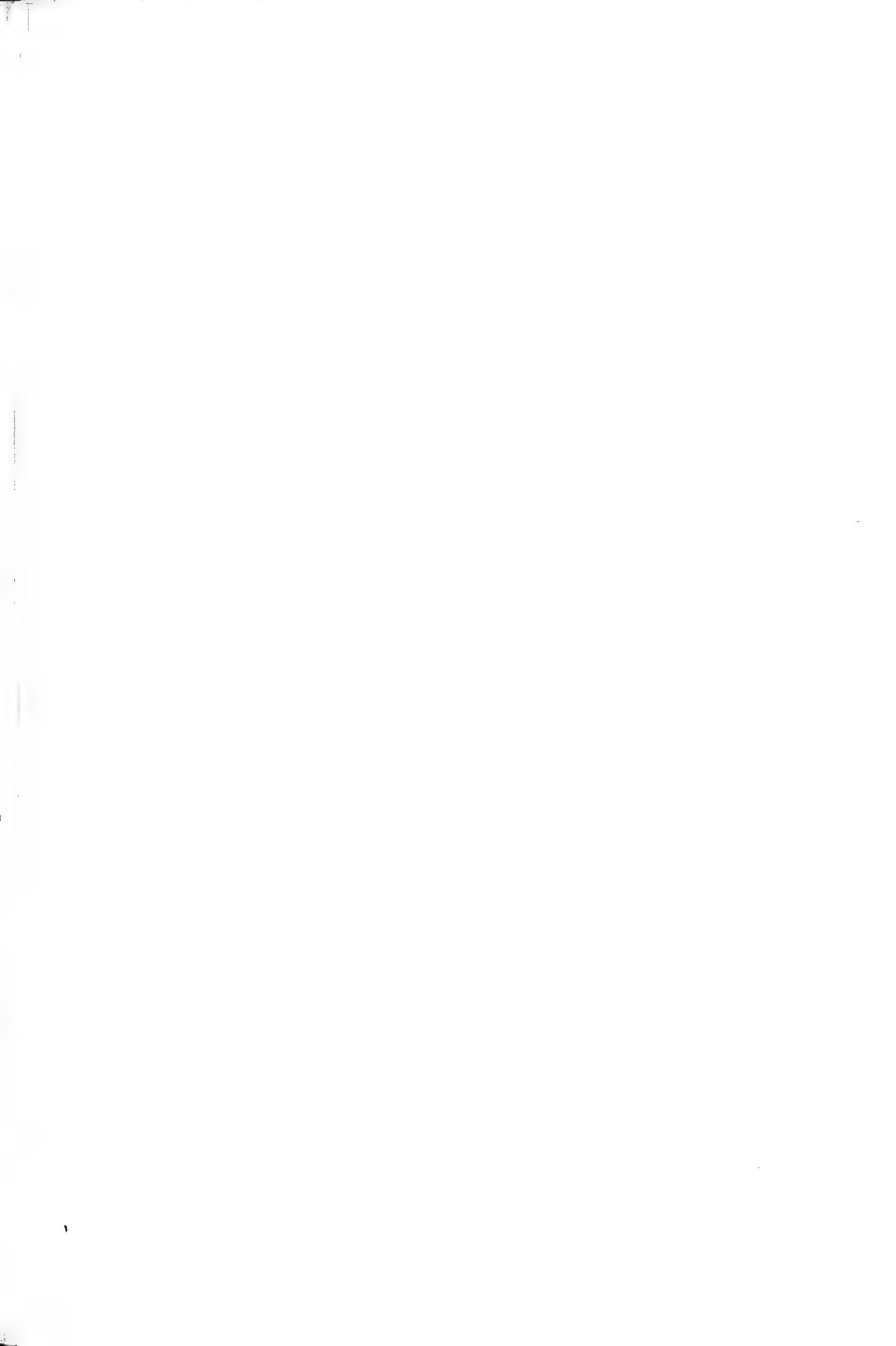


Apr 18 5 mi. W Bastrop

to be the one which kept the argument going.

Thereafter the birds sang little until about 5:00. About that time there was a song exchange between 2 birds S of where I took ~~the~~; then a third chimed in from still nearer the highway. I followed the northernmost ♂ for some time but found him difficult to locate [<sup>571</sup> \*570 had been likewise - even when I could see where the bird had flown to perch, his outline was difficult to make out]. Finally as I tried to move closer, he flew from a conspicuous perch on a vertical stub of a dead tree. I walked N, then returned at 5:20 and worked E slowly - I heard notes trip infrequently and finally saw 2 titmice together in an oak. They moved on in different directions and I followed at 5:30. I crossed a rocky brook course and flushed a Redstart and Myrtle Warbler from a cypress - their notes were difficult to distinguish from titmouse location notes. Finally I saw a form fly in to the base of a cypress and then a titmouse perched in an oak to N. I shot it and it flew to the ground 15 ft W ~~the~~. Then its mate flew to that same oak and I took [7, 572]. The first bird was wounded and gave a squeal-like call when I picked him up. Subsequently I lost him someplace en route to Austin. His appearance was that of a typical biolor with jet black forehead and whitish throat and cheeks in contrast to the dingy appearance of his mate.

[Titmice secretive, stealthy, quiet; hard to follow]



K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Apr. 20 8 mi. E, 3 1/2 mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., IN Bastrop Co., Texas

Overcast, dead calm. I reached this area and entered the mesquite-elm scrub on the property of A. Young of Smithville at 7:45 a.m. Titmouse singing S of dam, stopped at 8:00 - about 8:10 2 birds N pipeline, song exchanged - north bird sang kitty - - (nesting ♂ Tufted?) About 8:20 S bird moved S of pipeline and I followed it but didn't work in shot. Song peter - - changed to payta - at 8:28 - bird moved W and had song exchange with ♂ to S. At 8:35 I walked back to pipeline and worked down dry creekbed from dam. I did not locate him again.

At 9:43 silence - I walked SE along brook & came to barn & cabin - exchange of song downstream and I followed along entering a grove of elm and willow. Shower fell 8:55 - 9:00, birds singing more actively thereafter. One seemed to be on either side of stream. I crawled through a fence & then saw a bird of appropriate size fly into a hackberry - I fired at it with a .22 and it shifted perch and scolded chuh duh duh not the nasal enk enk. I took it (#578). Song going on downstream simultaneously. This bird had no brood patch so I don't know score.

I reached tributary from N at 9:15 & tried to sneak up on the northern bird - it kept moving SE in tall elms - his chief song was keyta - - - although once he sang something like tur-riddle I took him (#579) at 9:30 along S bank of tributary.



R Dixon  
1951

Parus

Mayhaw Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas =  
8 mi. E, 3 1/2 mi. S Delvalle

Apr. 20.

At 9:35 bird singing to W and another well to S.

Peta peta or keyta keyta by both

west individual sang 9:40 - 9:43 and sporadically 'til  
9:50 - his singing appeared to be spontaneous, beginning  
without evident external stimulus. He was quiet for 5 min  
b I lost him - then he resumed song down-creek at  
9:54 - by 9:59 he was silent S of creek but 87 farther  
S sang tur tur slowly, almost as though forced.  
At 10:02 he flew N across creek and sang peter -  
from dead tree, high up. I took him then (#580).

At 10:15 I started W and met a gentleman on  
horseback, Mr. Saunders of Bastrop, who owned the property  
where I had taken the 3 birds. He was kindly disposed  
toward me & we parted after a brief conversation.

I proceeded upstream through the elm grove (no willows  
nor hackberries) toward bird digs. At 10:30,  $\pm 125$  yds  
upstream from fence, W male sang from well downstream &  
from upstream (former bird S of 580). I saw a W male  
call sip sip as though stimulated by the song. I lost  
track of it but found it 50 yds SE calling chek del  
del and then see-yip a kind of anxiety note.

I lost track of the bird.

[ #580 had scolded: dait dait or del del alternately  
with song peter peter before & after he flew across creek  
at 10:02. This call lacked the sharp enunciation  
of that of atricristatus ]





Parus

Apr. 20. Mayhaw Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas

Failing to find the supposed ♀ in the elm grove, I worked on crossing the streamcourse W the farm bldgs. at 10:55. I heard a Titmouse sing peter — — from mesquite-scrubby elm up a slight rise. At 10:59 I flushed 2 doves with the usual whinnying call. The Titmouse ceased his song and gave a rather anxious-sounding note zeep, thin, high pitched. It was zeep-zeep, second note lower pitched, then — — — 2 couples presently, then just single notes of rather plaintive quality. This continued until 11:04. Three minutes later, this bird commenced to sing peter — — from scrub to N and I was able to take it (#581) at 11:10.

I proceeded N toward pipeline — SUN BREAKING through, WIND FROM SOUTH, to 10 mph in gusts. I encountered a bird I thought was a Titmouse in elm S of stumps where I first saw this bird on Apr 15. I had no satisfactory view but bird gave a call deh deh, then a very strange call (the same bird I believe)

whuh whuh whuh    huh hō hō hō hō  
- Hoarse                      Like screech owl in rhythm  
   but of quality of setting hen

Bird called from N pipeline but I lost it at 11:25.  
No song except Mimus by 11:38 as I wrote notes  
I left area at 11:45



Apr. 21 Mayhaw Creek

Cloudy, having rained lightly during night. I parked my car at 6:50 and walked S toward territory of lone ♂ seen Apr 15. I listened as I walked slowly, reaching pipeline at 7:05, but heard no Amoise songs. I proceeded W to roadway leading S - there in mesquites were singing Amoise. The mesquites W the drive were young; few exceeded 8 ft. I thought stalking would be difficult so I went S to near the creek. There in elm & mature mesquite, 2 Amoise W road, one E, all singing. Songs:

Keyta Keyta and tury tury tury from S along creek  
peta - - - (rapid) later slow payta payta  
Bird to north sang triddle set triddle set  
Amoise?

I followed S bird into elms & tried stalking his neighbor to east at 8:10 singing peta - - -  
& Barred Owl flew across a glade and into the elms near the point where this bird sang. He gave a scold a vehement vet vet vet vet each note of increasing intensity, each sharp and nasal in quality. Soon singing was resumed in exchange with ♂ to W, even before the owl left. Singer started E and I followed disturbing the bird which gave vet vet call less expressively. Soon it commenced singing peta peta and I took him (#584) at 8:20.

Song peta briefly from W at 8:26. No more song nor calls by the time I circled N & E to the roadway at 8:45. Ten minutes later I reached the haunts



Apr 21 Mayhaw Creek

of the white-fronted ♂. SUN OUT, CALM, WARM.

I checked back on the area S of where that ♂ was first seen and found it possible that he was #581 taken April 20. In re-reading, I found that on April 18, that ♂ had chestnut on the forehead as had 581 and was not pure white as I had supposed.

At 9:28 I approached Tufted nest - no twitter then see si' set set set of adult from mesquite SE & see set chut of juv in answer - parent fed juv on low shrub branch as sang keeta keeta from S near road. I walked over & caught the fledgling which could not fly but hopped about in the grass. It gave a cry eeeh-eeeh - (squeal-like) and tried to bite my hand. I heard the parent scold set set set from mesquite but could not locate her subsequently.

I crossed road at 9:42 & tried to locate the other. The ♂ sang only twice thereafter & I could not find the family group by 9:55. At the road at 10:02 I heard song peta - - not loud in elms S & followed - Tennessee to W in elms along road also. I followed ♂, located him in elm at 10:07 & watched him forage 2 min, singing infrequently then fly to elm W where he foraged - song again at 10:12 - bird seemed to be alone. Brood of chickadees to N

At 10:14 song & charge with bird to N, I thought a mockingbird. I walked <sup>then W</sup> along fence to clearing to east. I saw at 10:23 a singing Tennessee in



Apr. 21 Mayhaw Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas  
elm near road. This bird flew across road toward  
nest. Then I heard vet vet vet from that quarter as  
I started to follow, then song peer peer answered by  
bird South of where 1<sup>st</sup> ♂ had been. This bird sang  
again from just E of where I had seen ♂ at 10:07. I  
followed down brook course - he flew E & male called  
tsip & followed. I took one bird (sprayed with .38, the  
bird called deh deh deh - then I hit him again); it  
(♂, 586) fell into grass and I waited. Mate appeared  
in tree a few feet away and I took her, 587, at 10:38.  
This pair must have been the birds which "sang from  
SE of nest" on Apr 8 and the ♂ of which tangled with  
lone ♂ of pipeline on Apr 15. [I had paced and  
estimated the distance through the elm - mesquite  
from point of dispute to road at 275 yards.]





Parus bicolor

Apr. 23<sup>2</sup> 1 mi. E College Station

CLEAR, CALM. I awoke at 5:42 a.m. - first tinge of sunrise in E. Titmice singing from all quarters in post oak - blackjack around the Eidemiller residence.

The songs I heard during this brief period were:

Peter peter peter or beaver beaver beaver  
kitty kitty kitty or killy killy killy

All song ceased by 5:55 -

One bird to SW sang after 6:00 - peter - -  
kitty kitty - - . (This bird was paired during early march). Beaver - - (slower) at 6:10, then peta - - faster. Bird flew N then SE toward Eidemiller house, singing peter - - . It flew into blackjack & saw me - called det det det, see si det det det - then song leedle leedle leedle lea. Answer from SE. At 6:16 bird flew<sup>up</sup> to oaks along stream

I cut N across lot to plowed field near power line. (area mapped Mch 15). Titmouse singing peta peta peta from oaks at N edge of field. Kitty - - at 6:27

At end of road at 6:30 peta - - from SE and similar song from N~~th~~; latter then shifted to slower payta payta in couples.

I followed the SE bird - at 6:38 tree - - -  
or tray - - - rapid and peta - - to N  
Turay - - - 6 or 7 phrases per song  
Peta - - - 5, 4, 5. Silence at 6:45 for 20 sec.



Apr. 22. 1 mi. E College Station, Brazos Co., Texas

Then peta — — — — from S still at edge of small glade.  
peta peta - 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, phrases per song  
2, 2, 4, 3, 2, 3, see day day 3, 3, 4,

I moved back toward pipeline & then SE road after 6:48  
At 6:53 bird I had watched still singing. I heard no  
song from woods SE plowed field so I watched S.

At 7:00 Titmouse singing S of crossroad (area where bird  
sang at 6:25 (S power lines?) No further song. I returned  
to the house.

At 7:17 brief period of song from bird W house... peta —  
then beaver — — 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3,  
3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3. Twenty songs in 2 minutes.

BREEZE FROM N rustling leaves. Bird moved SW and  
apparently was near creek below Werga at 7:25. Nothing  
further by 7:35 so I left.

I watched SW at 9:45, across the street and then  
across the creek and then back completing a loop. No  
Titmouse calls or song by 10:10. WIND STRONGER FROM N

1:10 pm - Titmouse singing in oaks on property N Dr. Andels  
house - I had seen a lone ♂ here last month. Bird  
singing peta — — — rather steadily.

Eidenmiller & I walked NE to end of road & thence E of pipeline  
Titmouse singing steadily S of glade peta peta — — at 1:25  
(where bird seen at 6:45) We walked W along pipeline  
& then N after crossing fence. We had followed this route into  
a pasture on March 10. Titmouse singing from oak in  
pasture at 1:40 peta — — — answered by Titmouse



K Dixon  
1951

Parus bicolor

Apr. 22. 1 mi. E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas  
to E in dense woods. Exchange of song continued steadily  
until ~~2:15~~ 1:53. ♂ flew E to snag and hopped down along  
top of branch inclined  $45^\circ$  upward inspecting a longitudinal  
furrow. Bird called tsip flew to oak  $\pm$  40 yd E and  
sang once - silent, then resumed song at 1:56.

Bird to E did not sing except in answer (I think there  
were 2 to E, the one along the glade and one closer, the latter  
now silent).

We walked N, crossing from pasture into woods at 2:00.  
Closer bird to E had moved N. At 2:05 it once sang  
petu - - - from edge of woods and apparently was  
the ♂ from wooded pasture, having N. However, within a few  
yards of the fence was the area where the <sup>pair</sup> ~~members~~ of two  
parties in dispute disappeared at 4:40<sup>pm</sup> on Mch 10. At  
2:17 bird in pasture resumed song. At 2:20 bird  
we had watched sang briefly. Bird well to W singing  
also.

N bird sang at 2:25 petu - - 3, 4, 4, 3, 3, 3,  
It was in oak - elm - along stream course - several  
dead trees in the vicinity - we left at 2:35 without  
seeing any definite activities of this bird - it did not  
sing steadily.

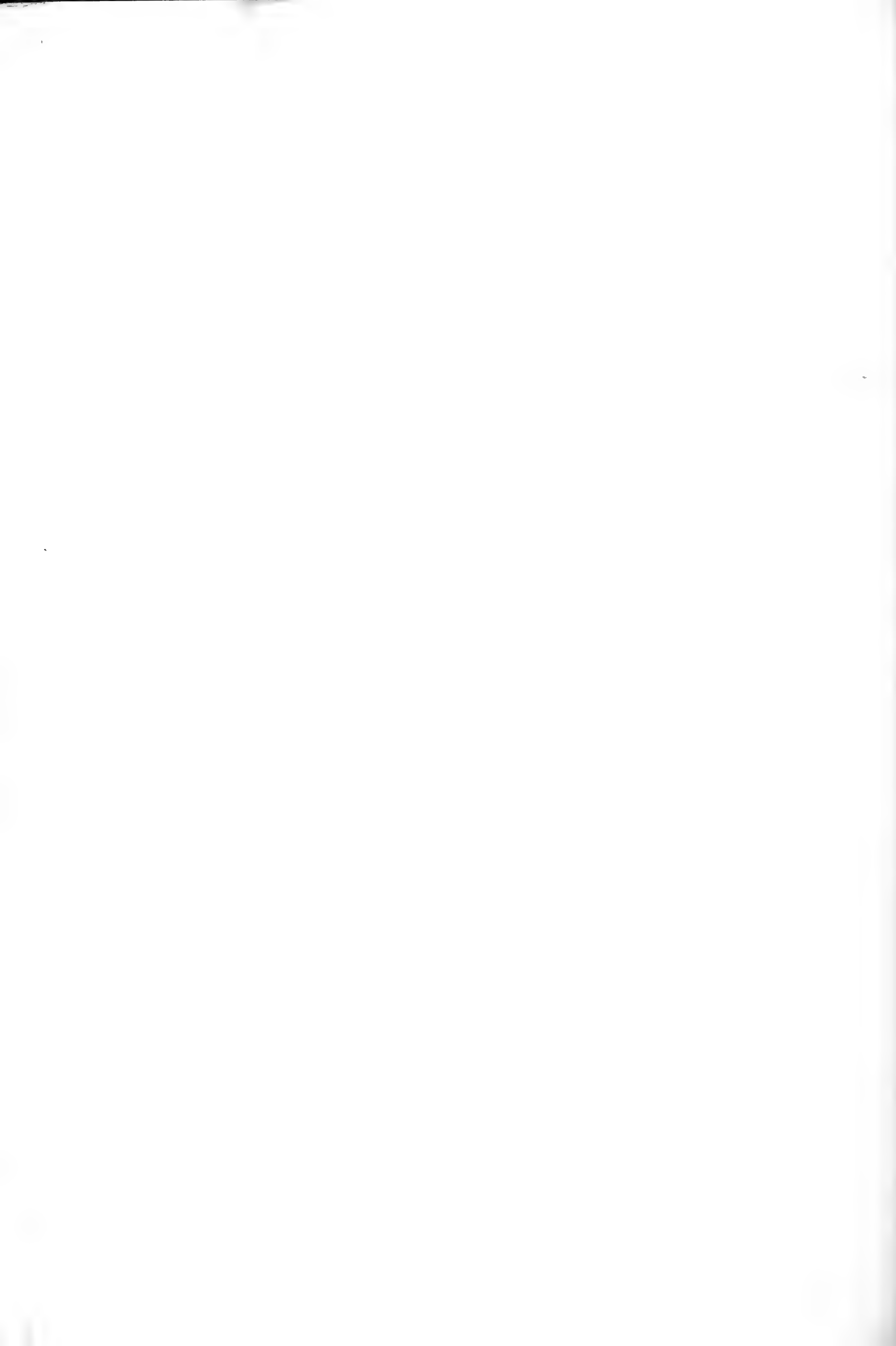
At 2:40 ♂ in pasture singing steadily; bird to E sang  
occasionally in answer. We walked E along pipeline  
but heard no tsip voices until opposite area where  
♂ sang at 1:25 - this individual continued as we  
left area, 2:45. CLOUD COVER THIN, wind from W



Apr. 22. 1 mi E College Station, 370 ft., Brazos Co., Texas

At 3:45 p.m. I heard song from area where ♂ heard  
at 1:10. (Previously seen at 1:00 pm on Mch 9; 6:38, Mch 10.)  
4:30 - 4:50 no ~~Amor~~ vocalization SW house where bird  
heard this a.m.

Calm after 6:00 pm - no vocal activity anywhere in  
neighborhood.





K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

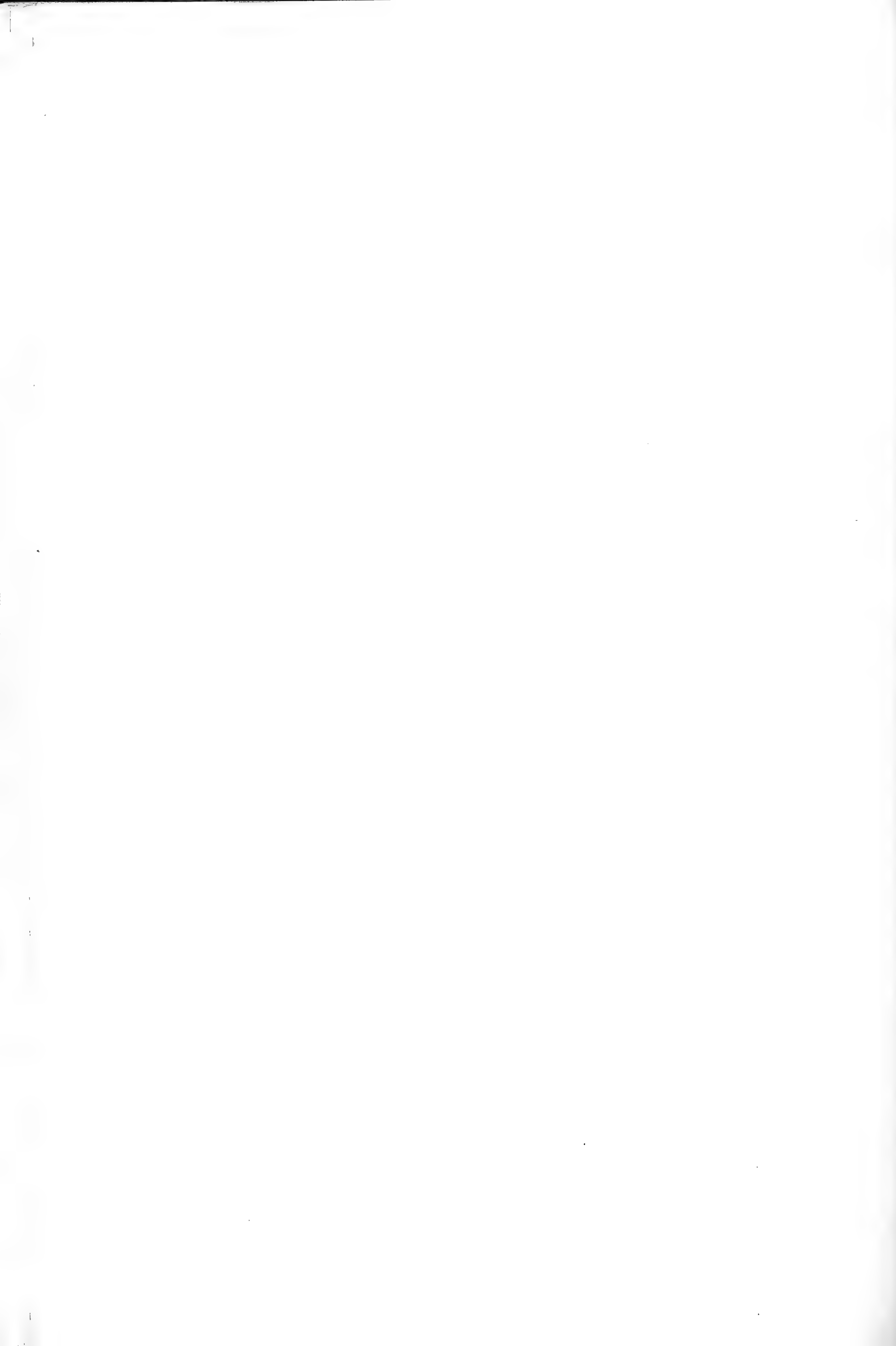
Feb 24. Chisos Basin 5400 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas

Sunny day with a few thin clouds overhead. I arrived at campground area shortly after 11:00 am (Central Standard Time) and encountered *Tilmonea* in the juniper-piñon-oak area about 11:15. I heard a call see deh deh dup, the first note thin and

-- --

high pitched, the next two nasal. The call is sharply and rapidly uttered. One *Tilmonea* which I couldn't see gave this call repeatedly while another foraged amid some vertical juniper trunks. Then both flew upslope to W to some other junipers. I watched them there briefly as they moved through the branches exchanging single soft notes sip rather frequently. Then about 11:20 the "see deh deh dup" call was given and they moved up onto the crest of the low ridge.

I followed and located the two birds foraging in adjacent junipers beside a piñon. They were silent giving the note sip rarely. I watched one bird from about 10 feet away as it foraged on trunk and heavier branches. It appeared to be removing the small plates of bark from the trunk for pieces of bark floated to the ground from time to time. Once I saw the bird pick up <sup>what</sup> appeared to be a larval insect. The bird I was watching gave the "see seh deh" call and flew downslope to an oak, flying from there to another oak(?) bush and thence to a piñon. Its mate foraged in the juniper where it had been for a while, gave sip notes, but after perhaps



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

2.

Feb. 24 Chisos Basin, 5400 ft., Brewster Co., Texas.

half a minute gave a louder call, then flew to a branch lower in the piñon than her mate was. Then both disappeared and I heard no more calls. The two birds seemed to be paired. This species appears to be a more robust bird than P. inornatus. One individual which I watched held his nest erect (apparently "habitually") reminding me of the individual of Otocorys alpestris which I saw in Oakland last summer.

From noon until 2:00 the wind blew in strong gusts so I stayed at my camp table. I walked around on the slope W of where I saw the birds earlier but all the birds were inactive and wind came up again so I gave up. (2:00 - 2:30)

The trees here seem to be an even mixture of piñon, juniper (at least 2 spp.) and oak (at least 2). One of the junipers is the weeping juniper (J. flaccida) according to Sperry & Warnock Plants of Brewster County, Texas. The other juniper has checked bark. Flat Opuntia, yucca, Agave, a Rhus and a probable Baccharis are the chief "undershrub" species. The grasses represent a good growth, grazing being excluded.

From 3:15 until 4:00 I worked down the N facing slope above the gov't workers residences. Then I worked the creek bed & slopes W of my camp until 5:05 - no ticks - few birds calling.



K Dixon  
1951

3.

Parus atricristatus

Feb. 25. Juniper Flat, 5600 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas

Overcast; wind gusty, intermittent, chiefly from E. I left the store-cottage area of the basin about 9:25 and walked up the trail in a leisurely fashion reaching the flat about 10:00. I walked around over a level area for a few minutes and encountered a titmouse at 10:10. The bird was foraging on the branches of a juniper near the trunk; it gave call notes "sip" or "seep" intermittently. A second bird was present and stayed close to the first, while a third titmouse gave sip notes to the south a few feet. When one titmouse flew out onto the branch where another was foraging, I heard a note soreet of melodious quality, similar to what I called a "sub song" in P. inornatus; this seemed to be a note used in aggressive behavior.

Two of the titmice stayed together, <sup>each</sup> answering the seep notes of the other. They moved through 18 consecutive junipers, although a few piñons and oaks were in the area. The third bird moved along with them and seemed to be associated definitely with the other two; however I never saw three together in one tree. As I followed the three I recorded the following calls

seep (= location note) used most commonly, uttered by birds when others not in immediate vicinity

see see see chuh dit chuh dit heard once  
--- --

see-deh and see deh deh somewhat nuthatch-like  
in quality high nasal

sueh dit sueh dit possibly contact for birds separated by several yards

sueh deh deh det deh-det deh-det staccato, once



R Dixon  
1951

*Parus atricristatus*

4.

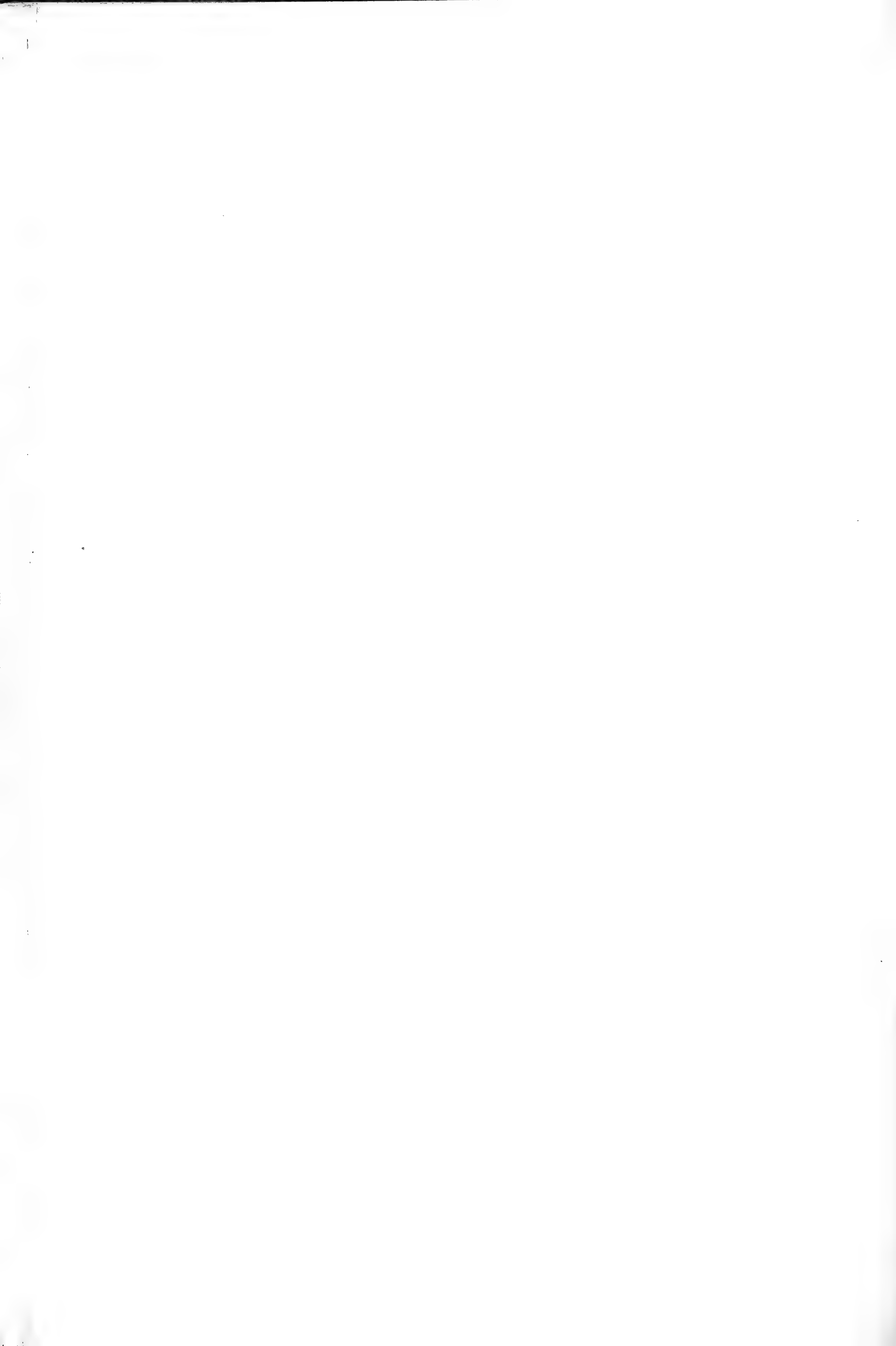
Feb 25. Juniper Flat, 5600 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas

I followed the three birds until 10:35 as they crossed a small gully. One bird flew into a scrub oak but did not remain there long. Most of the foraging seemed to be done on branches the diameter of a titmouse body or larger, for on these the bark was in loose plates. Rarely a bird would forage in the leafy terminal boughs and once I saw the bird I was watching pick what appeared to be a juniper berry. Only once did I hear a call see see see dee (*inornatus*-like) and only once did I see a bird hammering at any object held between its feet.

I was sitting on a slope writing notes when I heard a pair and saw two titmice in a juniper to my left as I faced the streamcourse. A flock of 8-10 Bush-tits moved down <sup>the</sup> streambed from that same juniper and I saw titmice in a juniper down stream. All titmice moved west and I think that there were six present in an area 80-90 feet <sup>(paced)</sup> long. They foraged in the junipers and called mostly soch-det soch-det.

I watched one titmouse about 10:55 in an oak to the west of a clearing. It flew to a lone juniper 40 feet E in the center of the clearing and into the same bough where another tit was foraging. I did not record any notes <sup>and don't know that any was given,</sup> but the latter <sup>bird</sup> immediately flew north 50 feet to a small juniper. Here it foraged and exchanged calls soch-det with another tit across the creek bed. At 10:59 it joined the latter.

There was little activity for next 15 minutes, occasional notes soch-det soch-det to N and S of the clearing.





K Dixon  
1951

5.

Parus atricristatus

Feb 25. Juniper Flat, 5600 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas

From a distance these notes sounded like scolding calls of P. inornatus. For a while I could hear sip notes of one bird to S of me as I sat beside juniper.

At 11:21 I walked S and watched at Tibonias foraging within 20 feet of point where I had seen birds at 10:10. Fifty yards or so to W I ran onto a pair foraging - juniper to juniper, often plucking plates of bark off branches, hanging underneath a branch chickadee-fashion, keeping up series of sip notes, occasional hammering. At 11:34, two Tibonias still where I had found them and at least one calling soeh det from time to time 75 yards across a clearing. See see soeh deh det once, rhythm similar to some P. inornatus notes but more nasal quality.

I went across the clearing and saw one bird foraging in a juniper at the <sup>N</sup>edge of the clearing. It was apparently alone. The bird flew 40 ft W at 11:42 - I do not think a second tit was present although two Ruby-crowned Kinglets foraged in the same tree.

I walked 125 yards W into an area with a heavier growth of oaks. There I called up one Tibonias as well as Spotted Towhee & Bewick Wren. The tit perched conspicuously with head turned to one side and crest erect. As I raised my binoculars, it called "see see see" "det det det" It continued to  
high-pitched thin nasal, wren-like

scold det det det for at least 5 minutes. This could have been the bird seen to E at 11:42.

I walked back downslope and called up 3 Tibonias



Feb 25. Juniper Flat, 5600 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas.

the only time I tried this (by hissing) in an area largely oak about 5500 ft. elev. Also attracted were a Hutton Vireo and a Bewick Wren. (Both these species were heard singing earlier on the Flat proper) <sup>Titmice gave sit sit sit - (begging?)</sup>

The vegetation on the Flat was juniper predominately (the weeping juniper was not there, however). <sup>[bark like that of Libocedrus]</sup> Oaks and piñons were there although less abundantly.

In some cases the growth was fairly dense, the height of the trees being 15-20 ft on an average.

The aspect reminded me of the oak belt in Southern Arizona except that yellow pine was absent. Avian associates which furthered the impression were Aphelocoma ultramarina and A. coerulescens, Vireo huttoni, Thryomanes bewickii, Balanosphyra formicivora and Pipilo maculatus.

During the 1 1/2 hours or so that I actually watched the titmice, I would say that they spent 95% of their foraging time working on juniper bark. While they would forage in oaks, they did not seem to tarry long in them but moved along into junipers. Thus as far as the "mexican" avifauna is concerned, the Black-crested Titmouse appears more to be the analogue of the Plain Titmouse at the northern margin of that floral-faunal complex.

During the morning I heard no song which I could definitely attribute to this species. Some of the birds seemed to be paired and acted so even when associated with additional titmice. In one case (incident at 10:55) two pairs seemed to be spacing themselves and establishing boundaries. Earlier, one "pair"



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

7.

Feb 25. Juniper Flat, 5600 ft., Chisos Mts., Brewster Co., Texas  
suspected of being involved had permitted a third individual to "tag along". I talked to Mr. Peter Koch, photo concessionaire and student of birds, about this matter at lunch. He stated that he had seen a "flock of about a dozen titmice" at his trailer near the service station "about three weeks ago." He said that this was the usual flock size and that 20 was the maximum in his experience.

Feb 26. Eagle Pass.

Two seen along hedge between 2 residences. ♂ & ♀ Cardinal also present.

Feb 27. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas

Cloudy, windy day with sunshine intermittent. I walked around yard of refuge headquarters at 12:30; a pair in newly leafed out trees by corral SE of bldg. perhaps 100 yards SE of where I had seen <sup>a pair</sup> ~~them~~ at 11:45. One bird gave monotonous call vet vet vet vet vet vet over & over; mate would answer with tsip. Both moved SE. (Mate of first bird scolded me from fence post & then called sechadee dee before flying to join mate.)

I relocated the birds at 12:55, 100 feet to the SE & watched one bird in dead tree at edge of lagoon (dried). Bird worked on small smooth branches and furrowed trunk as well, pausing there to pick at something gingerly several times, perhaps a cocoon. The birds then worked through a tangle to a large tree 50 ft S of corral & 15 feet E of road. One bird seemed to lead the way, remaining in that tree 1:05 - 1:10 and then flying across road to shrubs. I noticed that



Feb 27. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas  
 his crest was shining black. He called sit sit ~~for~~  
 steadily & at 1:13, "his" mate flew across road to large  
 pod tree [Pithecollobium] beside road to N of his position.  
 The second bird appeared to have a duller crown and  
 foraged in Spanish moss clumps a great deal, moving  
 from one to another of these (in a tree with fresh leaves).  
 This bird and its mate moved N to next tree on W side  
 of road and foraged there.

I was writing notes at 1:25 when I heard calls  
such det det. I saw four ~~to~~ mice in a dead tree  
 at 45° angle across road, 20 ft N of S end of canal.  
 One bird flew back across to tree where pair I had  
 been watching was foraging (also a large pod tree).  
 One jet black crested bird seemed to be chasing another  
 out hopping after him and calling vet vet vet  
 and once I heard sichadee dee (from him?) His mate?  
 perched higher in tree & looked away. The third  
 bird called vet vet vet all the while but moved back  
 across road and foraged in tree with mate. He  
 continued to call after the other had ceased - vet vet  
vet nasal. All quiet by 1:30.

At 1:35 the one ~~at~~ mouse was foraging in tree where they had  
 been at 1:13-1:15. This bird then flew across road to  
 tree occupied at 1:05. Mate in same tree called  
see sa vet vet over & over sometimes see sa vet ---  
 ---

This bird then stopped calling even though  
 I stayed a few feet from him. I left at 1:40.





K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

7

Feb 27. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

At 1:45 a pair foraging in what looked like an elderberry tree at N end of corral. At 1:48 a Titmouse in tree NW house where I had seen two birds at 11:45. Thus three pairs present in this limited area (perhaps). I followed the latter bird as he worked & foraging silently until 2:05. Then it commenced calling  
See stick ch      see sticka dee      see up

almost like the see cheep of P. inornatus. Call used most was see sticka dee and tsip more plaintive than previously. See sicka deh deh and see sticka stuck up were further variations, always introduced by the high-pitched thin note. I never heard an answer that I thought was a T. Meanwhile the bird foraged on Spanish moss, twig and frost-bitten? dead leaves, <sup>mostly</sup> ~~mostly~~ the former. When I moved on at 2:13 bird still alone.

The Titmice were not easy to follow for their tsit tsit notes were duplicated by warblers in the trees with them.

At 3:15 two Titmice were together in trees NW house. I put up a feeding tray in <sup>[= ebony]</sup> mimosa tree at S end of trees W house and another on a corral fencepost.

Feb 28. At 7:00 a.m. the approximate time of sunrise, Titmouse started calling from an ebony tree heavily decked with Spanish moss W of house - see si out out see si out out  
At 7:02 from a tree SW (beside old tank) "petur pee tur" a song. Bird then flew to trees beside Telephone pole NE and sang heer ~ ~ ~ ~ or heer ~ ~ ~ ~



K Dixon  
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Parus atricristatus

10.

Feb 28. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

At 7:06, Titmouse called from tree beside brickpile  
see sicha di di duh — call repeated over & over but  
male sang from trees 75 feet to N. This bird then flew  
N to join mate & they foraged in that area. At 7:20  
they were in adjacent trees, one doing most of the  
calling see siva sub dut — male flew to Ebony tree  
across drive & talkative bird joined her. At 7:30 they  
were in the trees SE of the brickpile & W the house.

I walked down the road past the corral but did not hear  
any Titmice there. Nuthatches were gone from the tray on top of the corral  
post. I returned at 7:40 and noticed a pair of Titmice in  
second moss-covered ebony tree. Nuthatches not taken from  
tray in mimosa.

At 7:45 calls of two pairs of Titmice one near moss-  
covered ebony where pair had roosted, the other NW  
second such ebony. Calls "see siv out" exchanged.  
Also "chuh duh duh dit dit" harsh, scolding. I followed  
one bird as it moved SW thru dense wood from second moss-  
covered tree — call see si deh deh deh and deh deh deh  
at 7:57 perched on high perch calling plaintive  
see seh deh see seh deh high pitched thin.  
Mate joined bird then. No further calls W of house in  
next hour.

9:10 I encountered 2 Titmice together in woods 100 ft  
S of house and 100 ft W corral. They foraged calling see  
but no other notes. 50 ft to E another pair foraged  
in ebony trees W road. I walked S to look for a



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11

Parus atricristatus

Feb 28. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

possible third pair but encountered none in 50 yards.

WIND BLOWING STRONGLY FROM SOUTH; CLEAR.

9:20 - W pair foraging in ebony SE of where they were at 9:10.

Call note sit given frequently - once see sit as a Green Jay flew by (recognized as an enemy? or bird startled by movement)? Birds still worked on Tillandsia quite a bit.

(latter hangs in "bards" 12-18" long) 9:28 both started

N in mesquite toward house. By 9:31 in mimosa at S end of house; 9:33 one flew E to ebony on drive, 9:34

see si dup as one chase the other along a twig-sprouting limb; latter flew 15 feet W to leafless tree & foraged.

Meanwhile no calls from pair toward coral.

9:38 call see de yup from E of drive & W of coral.

Titmouse I was watching flew W over house to legumose tree there. 10:40 I thought one flew E, then I saw pair in mesquite SW

See suvit suvit from ~~south~~ of house in stories at 9:43 (second pair here) and third pair to E of house 100 ft NE of second pair(?) During the next 6 minutes I was not able to find any titmice E of drive & N of coral. - couldn't find any bird <sup>in tree from</sup> which song tur-et tur-et came? <sup>[Carolina Wren]</sup> At 9:55 a pair of titmice in smooth-barked tree SE of house (near duck pen) - they flew N W over house into ebony there. I walked all along W side of house & found nothing. Then at 10:02

titmouse at wedge of grove & another in "second moss-covered tree" 10:06 - 2 in tree where first tit seen, none in "moss covered". 10:07 - pair 70 feet S of moss covered in ebonies

[Tree "B" of map, p. 15]



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*Parus atricristatus*

Feb. 28 Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge,

S of dead tree & simultaneously 2 where seen at 10:06.

At 10:10 they became aware of each other and scolded, sē vi vit and sicka dee for 4 minutes or so.

At 10:18 one of E pair commenced "scold" sē vi vit vit and once "sturick" while mate gave only sip notes

At 10:20 this "♂" flew to ebony W of house at bend in long part.

10:25 both in that ebony. Song peter peter peter from E & solt vet vet from one bird; other foraged on ground, paying no attention. Sichadee call from W of grove also. All quiet at 10:27. Birds flew W a minute later to trees on either side of where I had tray.

Solt solt vet from further west. At 10:29 I looked beyond this pair and saw a titmouse on trunk of "dead tree" possibly hole prospecting? I went there & found two together in ebony to S at 10:30 & for next minute. Other pair in tree with tray at 10:32 but did not visit tray. One on ground beneath that tree flew up as I approached. At 10:35 one flew to tree at SE corner of house; other joined it at 10:37. Only notes heard were tsit, no demonstration. 10:38, they flew S across drive - tsit notes of W pair moving E thru mesquite, then chee sip

10:41 - me at in low growth S of shrouded whitebark S of house 50 ft - other pair in mesquite 25 ft W see cheeryup and sit sit 10:44 see sicka dee repeated 4 birds present in mesquite E of apple box One bird giving ground as another moved toward it giving this call No vibut chase nor fighting - both retired without





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1951*Parus atricristatus*Feb 28. Santolena Wildlife Refuge,

further scolding notes. At 10:47 one bird in brush w apple box, another in whitebark tree to E. (Time out for photos)

11:00 - pair in trees at N end of corral &amp; E of road.

They worked over the lichens on several ebony & one soft bark tree SE of house. At 11:20 each bird dropped into bucket of grain beside duck cage to pick up a grain wheat or <sup>corn</sup> and carry it up to a limb to eat it.

I strolled out again at 11:55 and found one titmouse in ebony tree on west side of house at bend. As I rounded S end of house, it flew up for corn bucket. Then first flew over house to join second. At 12:10 they were in large ebonies due E of house.

No further observations until 2:55 when pair of titmice flew into ebonies NW front porch from trees W. They foraged there for a while, giving sit notesTsee tsee see si dit followed by a scold from same trees at 3:13I saw one titmouse in dense brush along the Rio Grande at 5:00 pm - bird calling sit sit continually. Mate may have been in area.At 5:25 calls tsee vet vet loud from ebony trees at SE corner of house. I saw 2 titmice in tree overhanging duck pens. Scolding continued and seemed to be directed toward Green Jays at least two of which also were present. The high then tsee tsee identical to "fear note" of P. inornatus was given when a Jay took flight from a limb higher in the tree and also when a Caracara flew overhead. Within a few minutes I



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14.

Parus atricristatus

Feb 28. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge,  
heard ~~the~~ mouse calls from ebonies west of house (as I  
was preparing evening meal). The birds moved to Tree  
"A" when I heard a rapidly uttered series of soft sit-  
sit-sit notes. This was at 5:43. I believe that the birds  
moved along the row of small trees toward the telephone  
pole. By 5:45 they were silent and I did not locate  
them nor hear them again although the sun did not  
set until about 6:24. Last night one of the birds ~~rode~~  
roosted in Tree "A" and apparently expected that his mate  
roosted near the telephone pole. Either "she" (?) had gotten  
off or out of the roost earlier than "he" awakened or "she"  
had actually roosted in Tree "C" of the map.

Several impressions of the birds here. They seem to  
be paired but not advanced very far toward nesting. I have  
not seen any clear cut nest site prospecting nor courtship  
feeding nor begging unless the notes before roosting tonight  
represent this. The birds here resemble P. inornatus  
in apparent size more than did the Chisos Mts. birds.  
I do not know whether boundaries have crystallized yet  
but disputes do not appear to be the "do or die" affairs  
that characterize P. inornatus; either these matters  
have already been settled and the vocalization is mere  
reminder or the birds will work themselves into a  
higher pitch of excitement later in the season.





# Key to Map of Refuge Headquarters area

A = lichen covered <sup>elm</sup> tree where ♂ bird roosted Feb. 27  
B = second lichen-covered ebony tree


C = tree where mate of first titmouse roosted (where <sup>it</sup> ~~A~~ called first)  
D = ebony tree where food tray placed


① telephone pole


② apple box west of scene of dispute at 10:44 Feb. 28


③ scene of dispute at 1:25 Feb. 27

 Ebony tree (Pithecolobium flexicaule)

 mesquite thicket

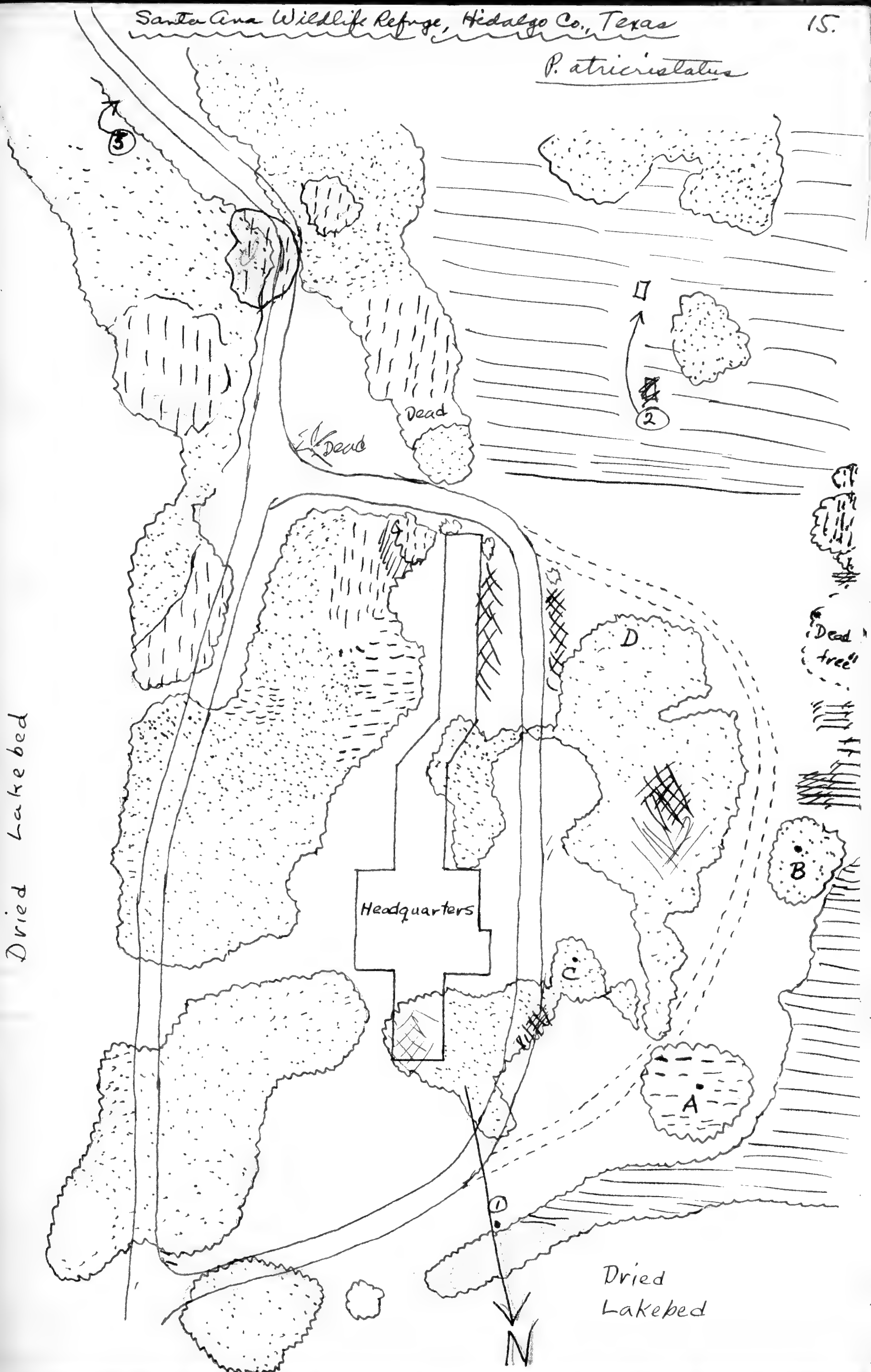
 #403 (Ulmus crassifolia)

 #402 (Leucaena pulverulenta)

 #401 "white bark tree" (Celtis laevigata)

*P. atricristatus*

Dried Lakebed







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16.

Parus atricristatus

March 1 Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

Cloudy morning, the clouds being moved along by winds from the SE. I waited in vicinity of Tree "A" 6:50 - 7:05. No calls nor activity. At 7:08 calls vet vet vet from ebonies W side of house at "Bend". Calls continued and there was no action at Tree "A" so I approached source of calls & found 2 birds in ebon tree. One called vet vet continually and the other called sip occasionally. The caller moved to Tree C at 7:18 & mate joined him a minute later. Caller led again to trees E of "A" and birds perched in last leafless tree to E then simultaneously flew down to second stump W of elephant pole at 7:20. Scolds stopped, just sip notes. At 7:22 both foraged in dead weedy growth in lake a few feet N. At 7:24 one bird in mesquite 2/3 of way to lone fan palm sang hear hear twice. Birds then moved N into mesquite & at 7:27 I heard round of scolds. Soft sip sip notes later.

7:38 song hear hear in mesquite 100 feet N of fan palm singer in upper part of mesquite, crest erect. Birds foraging there picking at objects on smaller twigs at 7:42 as I left.

At 7:55 I heard a call and saw a titmouse foraging in Tree "B". At 7:57 it gave see si dit dit (just like sida deede in rhythm). This bird continued foraging, mainly on lichen. At 8:02 I heard a note sit and saw a titmouse in the tree NE of B. Then I saw a second tit fly into a mesquite across the roadway. These appeared to be of the houseyard pair I had seen to N (last at 7:42). They were silent as though creeping up to the back fence.



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Parus atricristatus

12.

Mch. 1 Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas  
ready to jump down their neighbors' throat should he  
dare trespass. The bird I saw first gave see si vet  
once but no further action so I left at 8:05.

At 8:50 see si vet vet from trees at S end  
of backyard grove. Notes si from farther north  
& steady see si vet vet from area W of tree "B"  
Latter bird continued to call after 9:00 long after  
first bird was silent.

At 9:15 I circled the edge of the clearing moving W from S end of  
house. At 9:20 I encountered what I thought was a pair of  
Titmice in mesquite due N of Tree "B" toward edge of reaca.  
There was in reality 2 pairs having a dispute. One bird  
moved toward a second not rapidly, just a hop in its  
direction. The second bird retired to a shrub & away.  
Mate of first higher in tree scolded vet vet vet which  
was answered by mate of second, farther to SW. First  
bird moved toward second pair (i.e. SW) as two mates  
continued to call. At 9:21 this bird retreated, in part  
I think at approach of second but also as Sharpshinned  
Hawk swooped thru brush (the mesquite here is about 15  
feet high). High-pitched, thin see see see see for  
20 seconds laterally, by what I took to be the "second"  
bird. This individual then foraged, called si si  
interspersed by see see notes occasionally. At least  
two birds had given this "fear call," hardly a  
confusion chorus however. The first pair retired to  
the east to Tree "A" & the two birds were working S at



*Parus atricristatus*

March 1. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

9:30. The other birds moved S toward Tree "B" giving soft sit sit notes. At 9:35 one bird then a second flew W toward a low tree S of "B". They gave calls

tee see sooh dut and sicha dee duh, mostly the former on the part of one bird - both remained on that side of the roadway; call from a bird E.

Each took prominent positions in mesquite trees there, nests erect see see sooh dut, monotonously.

The bird which had followed the first one seen flew back to SW tree of "yard grove" at 9:39 and they gave sit sit notes. (nutmeats still on tray in next tree to E). WIND STILL STRONG FROM EAST.

Silence from pair to W. I walked through area W clearing but heard nor saw no ~~twice~~.

9:47 - Titmouse at base of tree SW of Tree "C". Bird flew up but returned after a minute. Foraging? Mate flew toward "A" but this bird returned to "C". Then in tree W "C" chased twice by Myrtle Warbler which then chased one of its own kind.

Titmouse foraged on twigs & lichen on trees which have come out in leaf remarkably during last two days. At 9:54 warbler drove titmouse to next tree W by a vicious attack in flight as it foraged on Spanish moss. Mate of titmouse still in "A" the two giving location notes. 9:55, the two in tree SW "C", one dropped to crotch about 18" above ground with flutter of wings then flew up as it saw me. Bird dropped down that way again & I left. Calls sit sit from tree to S.



March 1. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Texas

At 10:02 both titmice in ebony where tray was located & a minute later, one in tree W. Both foraging in higher leafy portions of that tree at 10:04 a minute later, one was in next tree N, mate also present. One then flew to Tree "B" & then to mesquite beside it. There was a disturbance to SW & calls vet vet vet & calls of woodpecker. Tit I watched did brief pendulum & flew SW. Bird worked thru brush to point about 60 ft SW "dead tree" at 10:10 calling vet vet vet and sickadee vet vet vet as vet vet vet calls given from NW in dense thicket. This bird then worked still farther W into wooded part of old mesaca. Calls continued from there, vet vet vet and see sickup of bird I had followed (?) at 10:15.

However at 10:17 two titmice in ebony E of "B" calling vet vet vet a scold answered see sickup by bird in direction <sup>of one</sup> I had followed. SUN OUT NOW, CLEARING. The bird I followed must have been a trespasser.

10:19 scolding tit moved N & continued vet vet vet while mate moved to ebony NE & called sit only. Vet vet in answer & sit sit also from Tree "B" now (10:21)

foraging motions	stuck end	branch bark	twig	trunk
			###	

Above in ebony tree 10:25 - 30 Bird preened under branch well protected then flew to tree S chasing an unidentified bird out.

branch bark	aerial	dead leaf	flew to mesquite W

at 10:33 Had taken insect & wiped bill afterward.





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20.

Parus atricristatus

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Bird actually chased another into mesquite across roadway then flew back NE to "A" to join mate. No calls but intruder permitted to remain in mesquite NE of "B" in area defended by yard pair at 9:20.

10:35 one bird flew SW to "B", other in mesquite to NE. Pair in "A" gave sit sit. W bird flew to ebony E of B and one, then other, of yard pair flew S. One in particular moved toward intruder giving very soft see cheyup twice. Action of "owners" seemed to be to ~~crowd~~ intruder off tip of bough; they flipped their tails nervously. Intruder flew to mesquite SE of "B"; only then did he give soft souh duh dit. Yard pair continued to forage in tree sit sit (10:38).

By 10:42 pair in mesquite at SW corner of clearing presumably having moved 25 yards from Tree "B" sit location notes. Yard pair in tree where they located giving location notes. I watched one bird forage consecutively on inside of seed pod of ebony (seed not taken), stub end, twig bark twice, stub end, twig bark. At 10:45 both in next tree E.

11:05 titmouse in trees at SW corner of house called sichadee dee dee duh duh dit as I walked by but did not move. Calls from SW corner of clearing where birds had been at 10:42. [I had checked on tree SW of "C" and found a vertical cavity there where bird had looked in] I replaced corn on corner of bucket beside duck pen.

At 11:13 a labored tall chuh dit dit dit dit from tree "B" repeated over & over. Two ~~titmouse~~ in upper part of that ebony both giving call steadily. One Green Jay in that tree.



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21.

Parus atricristatus

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and another in tree W. Apparently the titmice were scolding the jay for a fresh outburst would be given whenever the jay called or moved. The birds were very alert and would bob slightly in turning through  $45^\circ$  or so to right or left but they did not return to center or continue swing. One bird continued full call, other gave vet vet vet but both swinging. <sup>(they also flipped tails sideways)</sup> As jay shifted perch, one tit flew W to a mesquite & the other followed. Both gave their calls from ~~there~~ there.

The yard pair had been silent until now. At 11:17 one of the jays flew into the tree S of "A" and these titmice started up. See si dee vet vet and vet vet vet. They moved N and continued from "A" see si vet after 11:22.

Birds to W silent by 11:25 as ardor of yard pair also dwindling. By 11:27 in tree SE "A" only tit could be heard even as Green Jay flew into Tree "A" from S & gave sk sk call

At 11:33 ~~At~~ mouse flew into stone SE of telephone pole & was pursued twice by myrtle warbler. Other ~~titmouse~~ titmouse which had been calling sit sit sit from trees near "C" flew in and they foraged. I have not noticed any demonstration on part of either bird as they join one another in a tree.

At 12:01 I walked S past corral but detected no ~~At~~ mouse activity until 12:10 when I found pair in stone on W side of road  $\pm 125$  yards S of corral. These gave sit notes as they foraged, moving in an NW direction. Then I flushed what may have been a Screech Owl from a dead stump - titmice gave see see as it flew NW then moved along in



mch 1

~~Feb 28~~ Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

same direction keeping ahead of me. Their notes sit sit sounded plaintive and slightly more melodious than those of other birds I had heard here; they reminded me of Mountain Chickadee notes. I walked NW and came to a shallow streambed at 12:20. Underbrush was not the tangle of vines that the level surrounding had. The old river bed is about 50 ft wide and had ebony, "whiteback" and some sort of palo verde tree - others too? One titmouse foraged in terminal twiggery of ebony branch sit sit, thus at 12:32. A minute later both in Rhamnaceae (?) tree 40 ft E. In this tree the titmice foraged on leaves & twigs of peripheral foliage where an Orange-crowned Warbler had been working earlier. One tit gave an extra loud sif as I looked up and seemed to be flying away from his (?) mate's position - courtship feeding? Once a titmouse flitted out to pick an insect (?) off a leaf & returned to his perch to swallow it. The birds worked in the upper (= green, leafy) part of this tree, then moved to next (same kind) at 12:43, not pausing in Spanish moss. In taller leafless tree E at 12:45 flying S two minutes later (my movement or Green Jay flight past tree?) Birds foraging in leafless tangle on S bank at 12:50. I walked E along riverbed & found that its north bank met road in trees in which pair of titmice had foraged at 1:15 on Feb 27 - south pair of coral dispute. Perhaps these were the same individuals.

1:00 - titmice foraging in tree W of one where I had food tray. One bird in 5 minutes: Spanish moss 10, trunk bark 2, stump 1 (ebony tree). By 1:07, both were in the next tree N



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These birds seemed to be keeping in the lower branches of the ebony trees, the upper branches being leafed out more. One ~~titmouse~~ on a small lower twig 1 ft out from trunk flew in toward trunk as Myrtle Warbler approached & occupied its perch; ~~titmouse~~ returned to same point to forage a few seconds later as warbler flew ~~away~~ <sup>away</sup>.

1:13 - one ~~titmouse~~ flew S to tree where tray located. I watched his<sup>(?)</sup> mate forage on bases of Spanish moss leaves and on twigs; then I was unable to locate first.

1:18 - pair foraging at SW corner of clearing, in mesquite & a shrub with dead leaves. see vet vet (subdued) & location notes.

1:20 yard pair in trees opposite Tree "B" one farther N than other. Former flew down and foraged in same tree as latter; location notes only. Latter(?) foraging below former suddenly flew up and took two short jumps toward former(?) and gave two spaced notes sit perhaps more penetrating than the usual. This bird also seemed to be extending empty closed bill; no wing flutter. The former merely moved along and ignored the approach, significance of which I do not know.

I was impressed with the former as he<sup>(?)</sup> flew S to join mate. "He" flew to one branch and bobbed slightly, turning perhaps 10° either side of center. The black crest, which I have never seen lowered, formed a striking contrast to the white forehead and underparts.

At 4:10 pair foraging in Tree S of C - one flew over to ebony tree to E calling sit sit sit sit rather rapidly. I watched a bird there later and contact notes





*Parus atricristatus*

March 1 Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

seemed to be softer and a little more plaintive. The bird gave the usual sit and a softer seep or seet

Bird came in to get some water which had collected on stand-pipe - bird hung there with sidewise grip of pipe, flew to tamarisk E, wiped bill & back to ebony beside house.

5:00 — 5:10 pair in ebony west side of house N of bend then one was chased across to tree E of house by a bird which returned to ebony (its mate? Myrtle Warbler?) Mate then joined tit & they foraged there until 5:15. Then they worked E across canopy over lawn. At 5:20, one in <sup>ebony</sup> tree E of drive & other in dead snag to E at edge of lake. At 5:25 former flew S & I watched its mate to E latter flew to tree from which other had flown this at 5:27 and called sit see dee dit dit softly then sit a little more emphatically than usual WIND STRONG FROM NE. Titmouse then crossed drive & worked thru ebony at corner & into whitebark tree next to it. Bird did not call again after 5:33 nor did I hear its mate. No roostsite evident in whitebark.

March 2. 4 miles SE Rio Grande City, Starr Co., Texas I walked over flat land bench, the first level above the bottomland of the Rio Grande & heard a pair of titmice at about 8:50 I shot at one with a .22 shell & missed. From here I dropped down along the bottomland but found no titmice until I was retracing my steps after covering an area 5 acres or so in extent. I heard a pair calling sit sit and noted one in a mesquite,



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25.

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March 2. 4 mi. SE Rio Grande City, Starr Co., Texas

mate in shrub adjacent. I shot one bird (#471). Mate flew to tree to W 35 feet or so and kept moving and calling (calls not recorded) As I followed, this bird (#472) a male, flew back to the precise spot where ~~she had~~ <sup>she had</sup> been perched when I took her. I collected the ♂ at that time.

A few minutes later I followed a pair at the edge of the riverbottom (perhaps the pair I had shot at earlier in the mesquite 150 yards or so to N). One bird was calling si vet si vet vet and moving ahead to NW.

Its mate lingered to forage along the way and I took her (#473). I followed her mate, increasingly agitated (at lack of response from her?) and felled him with a shot. The bird only wounded flew into a brush pile & I lost it. I saw no more twice in this area, thinned out, partly cleared and no more twice in mesquite thickets to N. (See journal account)

± 7 miles by road E Rio Grande City, Starr Co., Texas

At 1:20 p.m. I heard call of a twice and saw two together near the highway in bushy area of mesquite and such shrubs as Adolphia?, flat Opuntia etc. This dry hillside was at least 2 miles from the riverbottom.

Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge

I returned here at 3:15 and heard twice from time to time in the northern part of the back yard. At <sup>5</sup>4:45 I heard calls sit sit sit in mesquite N of fan palm.



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Parus atricristatus

26.

Mch 2 Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co., Tex.

The two birds worked S toward Telephone pole # at 5:47 both were perched there. One then took a prominent perch and called sivi vet vet continuing vet vet notes as though scolding & moving to a perch a couple of feet closer to me (I stood NW tent) Thinking that I might be disturbing them I went inside the tent as ~~titmouse~~ Titmouse flew into large ebony N of house. Sun still shining.

Mch 3. Foggy or low clouds, little wind. At 7:05 call see see vet vet from ebony N of "bend" in house. Bird continued vet vet for a minute or so, then sit sit. At 7:12, Titmouse to the S sang "pea-pea pea-pea" Two notes not hurried, a clear liquid whistle. Bird in ebony answered at least twice. Foraging continued with sit notes. At 7:17 bird I was watching <sup>sang</sup> ~~said~~ "hear hear hear" each note an exact repetition of the preceding (~~At 7:17~~ <sup>this may</sup> had been in response to sit sit from Tree "B") for ♂ faced in that direction when he repeated song. Answer in kind from pair to W and pair to S. Silence again; at 7:20 I saw both Titmice in ebony where all activity of morning has prevailed - probably both there all the while I have watched. (For last 10 minutes or so a Ladder-backed Woodpecker has hammered away in that same ebony tree. Myrtle Warbler and Gnatcatcher also there, Orange-crowned Warbler.

See such dit such dit over & over from same tree at 7:33 Calls continued rather steadily until 7:40 when one bird in tree SW "C" flew N into "C"



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March 3. Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge, 7 mi. S Alamo, Hidalgo Co, Texas  
other then flew into tree NW "C" and gave sit calls  
and see such dit, mostly the sharp tsit

7:44 one bird in "A" si ver ver - other in tree S of  
"A" - contact notes only. Former moved into row of mesquite  
leading NE. I lost track of second bird at 7:49 one titmouse  
in along N of house & no calls from any other position (location  
notes only) DEAD CALM.

March 5. Harlingen, Cameron Co., Texas. Mr. L. Erby Davis told  
me that the Black-crowned Titmouse in this area does  
not flock in winter. He and Mrs. Davis stated  
that only on rare occasions had they seen more than  
3 or four titmice together at one time. Mr. Davis  
said further that whenever he heard a titmouse  
call, he followed it up and located the birds, for  
other passerines tended to follow the titmice. Thus  
a titmouse call might indicate a mixed flock which  
would include wintering warblers as well as kinglets  
and vireos. Mr. Davis also said that this titmouse  
may nest close to the ground and that he had seen  
one nest in an exposed position in a stump (a cavity  
~~incompletely roofed over~~). roofed over but not completely  
walled in). This species is widespread but not  
"common". He has noted no change in its frequency  
of occurrence in this area.



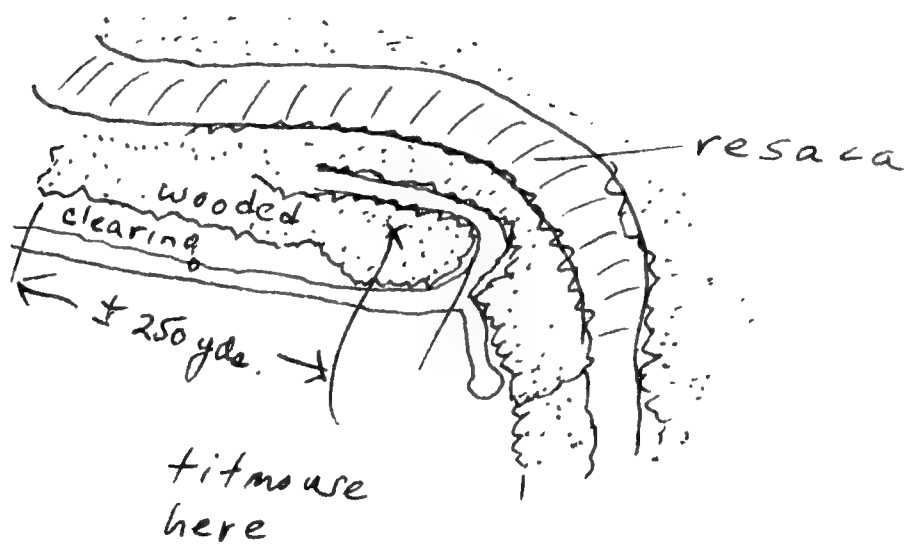


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Parus atricristatus

Mch 6. resaca 1/2 mi. SW Olmito, Cameron Co., Texas

Cool, foggy overcast. Dense tangle of ebony & other trees all sapling form  $\pm 20$  ft high (reproduction?) Song "cheer cheer cheer cheer" given at infrequent intervals by bird I could not see. Then "seichadee dee" as I got closer and tsit repeated at intervals. (This at 9:40 am) The song was given again in two "bursts" each one farther to the west and deeper into the thicket of closely spaced saplings. No further calls after 9:47 although I worked along edge of clearing to SW until 10:10.





K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Mch. 17 Aransas River, 5 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

OVERCAST, WIND moderate from W. I spent a few minutes after 12:45 following up a Titmouse song in an area of scattered liveoaks (brush intervening had been cleared and left lying). The singer, shifting perch frequently in a liveoak 20 ft. tall, appeared like a perfectly good Black-nested Tit to me. His crest was black and was carried in the very erect style of the Rio Grande birds. The song consisted of the same phrase repeated over and over

tree tree tree tree - - - a clear whistle  
I recorded a sequence of songs of the following number of phrases: 7, 8, 8, 7, 8, 9.

From an oak 25 yards W came a "scold"  
see vet vet frequently, also atricristatus-like

Mch 18. OVERCAST; WIND FROM NORTH 12-16 mph with stronger gusts at times. I drove across the bridge, did a corkscrew turn beneath it and drove NW through uncleared mesquite-grassland and mesquite brush with scattered liveoaks to the W fence of the Driscoll property. From there S along fence to the streamcourse. I got out and walked from time to time but saw no signs of titmice. Small birds inactive generally. I was in that area about 9:00 - 10:45. [north of Aransas]

I drove along the road into area S of creek and E of bridge. From 11:00 - 11:25 I walked along the S bank of the <sup>creek</sup>~~bridge~~ crossing to the N bank at 11:10 to E of the 1<sup>st</sup> sidedraw <sup>(about 1/4 mi.)</sup> E of bridge. A Titmouse was singing a clear sharp peter - - - in groups of 5 or 6 or more. His crest was a smoky brown color carried erectly and the forehead pale rusty.



Parus

Mch 18. Aransas Creek, 5 mi, ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I did not follow this bird because I was not certain that this was Driscoll property. The bird appeared to be alone during the 5 minutes or so that I followed it.

Mch 19. 4 mi E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas Sky overcast after rain

last night; wind from N, 2 to 8 mph. I hunted along the eastern margin of the Driscoll property and for a short time on the adjacent Rodriguez property from 9:15 until 11:45. I had driven along the road due E all the way instead of turning NE toward the bridge over Aransas Creek.

Prior to 10:00 I hunted in mixed mesquite and liveoak in a pie-shaped area of  $\pm 600$  yards radius to S and W of fence intersection — no ~~titmice~~ found. At 10:05 I heard song peta peta peta from woods to E & I crossed fence & followed up. I was impressed with the more dense nature of the vegetation on the Rodriguez place; either grazed less or shrubs hadn't been cleared at an earlier date.

I located a pair of titmice within a few minutes foraging in a small liveoak. One bird called vet vet vet several times then tail infrequently. The sun was out at the moment and I could see colors fairly well. One bird was a typical Black-capped Titmouse with a cream-colored forehead; its crest was not shining black, but was carried with the tip curved forward. The other bird had a smoky gray crest with the forehead not lighter by contrast. At 10:18 both flew to two adjacent-ly situated oaks 20 ft SW. Call notes given were chub dub — — — — — (nasal) and



K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Mar 19. 4 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

and a plaintive see see see. Both birds foraged in the uppermost twigs of the same live oak, one picking at what appeared to be a new bud. At 10:21, one called sit sit sit in rapid sequence as it floated down the trunk in a spiral. It foraged in a shrub (#410)

for a few seconds, then on the ground within inches of the shrub, then upward again within a minute. Both in crown again at 10:22, sit notes well spaced, softer than those of warblers nearby. I noticed one bird (♀?) hopping upward in tree from one branch to another, always at bases of branches or along furrowed trunk bark. One of the birds (both in crown again) commenced song peta peta peta - same song from farther W also.

I moved closer and both birds dropped downward in the tree, one giving see si out — — — — from the shrub at the bottom of the tree. The other bird silent, higher up —. Silence maintained for a minute or so even though other birds present (gnatcatchers, Vireo griseus, Dendroica dominica?) resumed call notes in half that time after being silent after disturbance. As I approached still closer, tree tree sub dent from bird in shrub at 10:28 — Titmouse flew to oak S.

10:30 one Titmouse (brownish crest) preened in middle of oak shrub.

I walked W then to locate other singer.





## Parus

Mch 19. 4 mi. E Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

The bird was in mesquite just S of the road, singing peta — —. A "flock" of grackles there too. As I moved within range, movement of cattle disturbed Titmouse which flew E & sang within Rodriguez property — no answer from pair SE. I searched area to S for 600 yards or so again but located no Titmice so I left area at 11:45. Other birds rare in area except for a concentration where pair seen after 10:00 — possibly due to sheltered situation in denser growth.

Mch 24. Live Oak Creek, 2 1/2 mi NE Somerset, Bexar Co., Texas

2:30 pm, cloudy. I heard calls chee det det det det or cheh deh det nut-hatch-like from leafy deciduous tree growth along the streamcourse. Much of surrounding uplands was mesquite. I had a glimpse of one bird — crest blackish, forehead not discerned.

Mch 25. 3 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas Cloudy with occasional showers following rain last night; light breeze from the SE. I hunted in an area S of the road about 1 mi E of the ranch house (due S of last house N of road) from about 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. About 9:30 I heard a Titmouse call in the brushy mesquite-covered area and located a single Titmouse. Its call was approximately chee det. det, det-det-det over & over. The bird moved along with a flock of small birds, loosely organized but seeming to follow the Titmouse whenever it called. Included were Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (±20) Black-and-White Warbler (3 or 4),



Parrus

Mar 25. 3 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

White-eyed Vireo, Magnolia? Warbler

The ~~titmouse~~ foraged on branches of oak and Lycium? shrubs and was active - it dropped to the ground once. It moved along at a rate about as fast as I could walk, the other birds going along in the same direction. No song, ~~titmouse~~ alone. I shot at the bird twice but it kept going and I lost track of it. Crest blackish forehead? No other ~~titmice~~ in area.

I heard a song pay-ta pay-ta from N of the road in live oaks (underbrush cleared) and walked there to investigate. In the oaks at the edge of a large cleared area at 10:50 I ran onto a flock similar in composition to the one seen S in mesquite. Two ~~titmice~~ were present calling chek del del, nasal but not the sharp vet vet vet of Rio Grande Valley birds. I followed the bird which called less frequently and took her <sup>#492</sup> after a siege of firing pin trouble. The wind was blowing stronger from E and rain was falling. I stalked the mate of the bird I had taken but it flew to another oak 30 ft SW. I got in a shot there and the bird seemed to have dropped in the tree, called see see see and flew to next oak SW then NW at a rapid pace. I located the bird calling from N of a fence in property I had no right to hunt on so I let it go. Later song peta-peta from there. Still later I heard nuthatch-like enk enk or yank yank call from same vicinity.



K Dixon  
1951

Pamus

Mar 25. 3 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas Live oaks  
(11:20) and I called up a titmouse which then flew W  
along the fence. Firing pin failure permitted the bird  
to fly on N of fence again.

Mar 26. Misting slightly after intermittent rains. I returned to the  
same area and was walking along a fence shown on sketch



The shaded area had not been  
cleared and supported dense  
brush as well as live oaks.  
Only live oaks standing on  
Driscoll property. A titmouse

scolded me from N of fence near the corner but I couldn't  
entice it to cross fence by squeaking. I walked west  
and ran into a flock of grackles and a lone titmouse,  
the latter calling dut dut dut. I collected it, a lone  
bird and thought at the time that it might be the mate of  
the ♀ (#492) which I took here yesterday. This bird (#497)  
proved to be a ♂ which helps substantiate this supposition.

I walked down to the riverbed & thence E along the S  
bank after 9:30. The soil was sandy here and there  
was a dense woodland of low trees growing on the "bluffs".  
Among them were my plant catalogue numbers #411, 412, 413.  
Other trees (the majority) were not out in leaf. I heard a  
titmouse song "hear hear hear" and located a bird  
singing from various perches in a leafless tree. It  
moved E and I saw another titmouse fly along. Grackles  
and a yellow-throated Vireo were with the titmice, also 2  
Minotilta varia. The "flock" moved along rapidly and



Parus

Mch 26. Aransas River, 4 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I was not able to get a shot at them. Finally they perched in a clump of trees (elm?) in a swale and I took the least active bird supposing it to be the ♀ (later proved to be ♂) #498. Its mate gave a "scolding" call from the adjacent tree into which it had flown, then moved 5 rapidly. I heard a song from that direction but did not follow up, rather returning to the car at 9:45. My impression was that there were more <sup>than riverbank timber</sup> Titmice in the liveoaks, something I'll have to work on.

As I was skinning in the bunkhouse, I heard song peta peta from area to E (shortly after noon). I started to investigate but the singer had moved onto forbidden property N of cattle guard so I abandoned the search.

Mch 28. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I walked downstream, leaving the house on the Heard Ranch at 8:45 a.m. (see Journal). I walked along the N bank of the river for about a mile always keeping to the fringe of trees. At 9:40 I started back and walked for some distance. No Titmouse voices detected prior to about 10:10 when I heard song peta peta and followed it up. Song came from mesquite patch with a few live-oaks N of river and E of tributary creek E of the house (= Spring Creek?). Song ceased before I could locate the bird so I returned to the house at 11:15.

At 4:30 I drove 1 mile N and walked through oak-mesquite area for 20 minutes — no calls of Titmice.





## Parus

Mar 29. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Clearing, sunny, wind from NW to 12 mph. I drove to a creek crossing about 1 mile N of the house, arriving at 7:30.

Large liveoak trees spaced widely along the creek, smaller liveoaks and mesquite - brush in uplands. Soil sandy.

About 7:40 I heard a Titmouse call dut dut dut and watched a pair fly across a clearing crossed by pipeline and roadway. One bird (flying W) was followed by two gnatcatchers and flew to a mesquite tree 18 ft high at edge of dense tangle of "blackbrush" (smoothbarked) (KLD# 417) 14 ft high. The second bird flew into a 15 ft liveoak 20 ft east. The latter (the darker crested I believe) called dut dut and see see see perhaps as I stood in open.

Mate silent moved into 20 ft liveoak 15 ft W and caller followed but continued to call as it foraged. Mate silent, foraging in twigs at periphery of tree in sunlight perhaps working on catkins which were out ~~in the~~ on that tree. I took this bird (#510, ♀) its mate shifted direction on its perch and I collected it too (black-crest).

8:22 Titmouse singing from mesquite along W edge of a wood lot to NW along creek peer — — — — in 5, 6, or 7 phrase songs (I think mate was to S along creek) Bird would shift perch frequently giving note sit as he did so.

8:29 momentary pause in song. 8:31 flew S as I approached closer reason? — then vet vet — — as I approached on W side of large oaks. Bird moved E into shrubs and sang redick redick — — over & over until 8:36 no sign of mate yet.



Mar 29. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

Bird moved S — at 8:41 75 yards S of 9:36 position  
2 min later I heard hear — — and then a scold  
dud — — — — and saw Titmouse inspecting a  
cavity in a leafless oak — cavity vertical on top of a  
branch — bird continued scold — then gurgling  
call and I saw Carolina Chickadee in same low oak and  
Titmouse flew at it. Tit then flew SE to another leafless  
oak and then S I heard tur — — — song  
at 8:45 — same bird?

At 8:52, Titmouse scolding vt — — — and following  
Carolina Chickadee in mesquite 100 ft downstream from fence.  
I fired at Titmouse with .22 and it escaped, working SE along  
bank of creek largely in oaks, crossing road by 9:00.

At 9:04 in large oak SE of road — then silent. Later  
I heard it S of creek & followed it there then across creek  
again. Bird singing peer — — — a very rapid  
sequence of melodious notes of one pitch in answer to bird  
to N in mesquite. Titmouse wary, circled, returned to  
oaks along creek at 9:30. Song tur — — from NW  
at 9:34. I am certain this is the same bird, unmated  
a Black-nested Titmouse still singing as I walked N

At 9:45 I caught up with singing Titmouse to N in  
mesquite — oak SE of cattleguard on same fence I had crossed  
earlier. Peer — — — — and Tur Tur were what  
his songs sounded like to me. I caught up to the bird  
once and it called see see dave vt twice then  
flew on. It circled and was S again near where



McH 29. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I had first picked it up - seemed to be alone.  
(gratcatchers and yellow-thr warbler and Black-and-white  
Warbler were following along with it.) Bird sang little after  
10:00 - gave call vet vet which could be transcribed  
enk enk when heard at a distance.

The habitat here is of scattered trees, postoaks (leaves  
shed) 15 - 20 ft high and a few willow mesquites and  
several brush species growing to 8 ft.

10:14 enk enk farther E, then peta - - - -  
WIND STRONGER FROM NW.

Bird still singing as I walked SW. The "cattle guard"  
point of reference actually was an oblique fence corner with  
white rails on either 'face'. The bird was to the East generally  
of this corner & hence NE of the other Titmouse. These two  
singing ♂♂ seemed to be unmated - I thought I'd check on  
them again in the early morning and collect them then. Two  
other males seemed to be unmated - one along the river E  
of the bridge, the other on the extreme E end of the Driscoll  
ranch - care must be taken to determine if there is  
an unbalanced sex ratio.

Titmouse singing along creek near road in large live  
oaks at 10:30 - I followed creek E, walking for about  
half a mile (until 11:05) then returning via the same route. I  
heard no Titmice in that area but those where I had  
hunted earlier were silent as I took photographs and  
collected plants, 11:35 - 12:05. SUNNY, COOL, WIND  
12-14 mph, blowing loose leaves in its path.



Mch 30 Spring Creek

Sunny morning, 42°F at 7:00 am. I drove to Spring Creek, reaching the area before 7:30. Titmouse singing in oaks upstream from road crossing in area where I had shot at Titmouse which I followed 8:20 - 9:30. I followed the bird as it sang peta peta (answered by Titmouse to NE). This individual was wary, keeping well ahead of me - once it moved into big live oak from mesquite thicket and called vet vet vet (a scold?) Then song resumed - only one voice involved. I collected this bird (514) as it moved through a clump of postoaks using a half load at 7:43. For the next 15 minutes I walked along the creek bank, in and out among the oaks watching and listening all the way to the oil pipeline (where bird had gone yesterday). This eastern boundary was only a few yards from the point where I took a pair of Titmice yesterday. The bird ranged nearly 1/4 mile along the creek. I think it was unusual for it sang continually and from the condition of the ♀ taken yesterday, I doubt if any of these Titmice are nesting yet.

I walked north into area occupied by the other Titmouse at 8:05 - silence as I wrote notes within area until 8:17. I walked on, back and forth through the area until 8:35. By this time, WIND FROM SOUTH 3-4 mph. I returned to the car and drove E 0.6 miles <sup>actual, not road</sup> to another branch of the creek, lined with live oaks openly spaced. I started walking N of the road and on W side of creek. I heard first a Mockingbird singing peta peta, then definitely a Titmouse. The bird was singing from a post oak in a sparsely-wooded area E of the creek & north of the road. Apparently the brush had





Mar 30. Spring Creek

been cleared for mesquite was small. Liveoaks and post oaks were intermingled. The bird stopped singing but foraged in a live oak, calling tsip infrequently. I took it (#515).

I walked N at 9:15 and covered the liveoak-postoak woodland on either side of the creek for  $\frac{1}{4}$  mi N. I returned to the car at 10:00 having seen no Titmice. Then I heard a brief bit of song peta peta from the W bank of the creek S of the road. I investigated and heard Tsickadee dee, then sit sit and saw two Titmice foraging in a large liveoak. Then I heard a call dut dut dut and saw courtship feeding take place. The ♂ extended food in his bill to the ♀ who fluttered her wings and continued to do so silently on the same perch for several seconds after the ♂ left. The ♂ had a black crest, white forehead, & not seen closely. ♀ fluttered wings and gave sit. sit. sit in rapid sequence as ♂ approached, call intensified to dut dut dut as ♂ drew near. ♀ moved then to east side of oaks as I made ready to take her, then flew across creek into blackbrush. I caught up with them in oaks there and witnessed "courtship" feeding again, the male extending his food laden bill while hanging upside down. ♀ led into large oak and then into blackbrush & calling vet vet vet from there. ♂ seemed more interested in foraging, silent. ♀ flew to small oak E and then I lost track of birds until I saw presumed ♂ in oaks yards E. He moved along as though alone foraging, calling sit infrequently. I had seen a bird which may have been the ♀



Parns

Mch 30. Spring Creek.

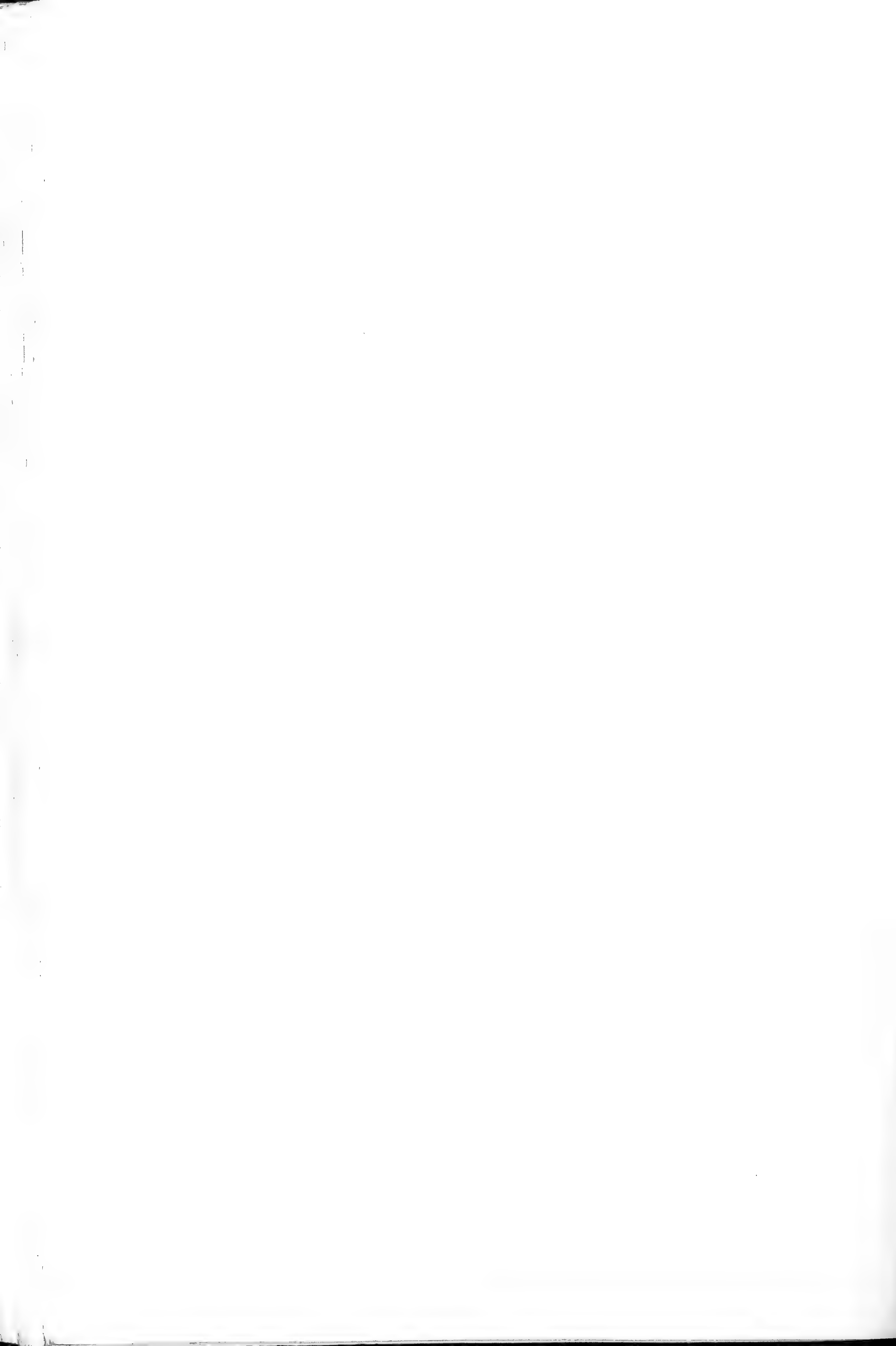
fly to a large stump in clearing to E. My guess was that incubation was underway and that the ♀ had returned to that activity. The ♂ did not sing as other love males seen earlier.

I drove W to the area where I had hunted 8:05-8:35 and worked through the open post oak (with occasional blackjack oak) from 10:45-11:05 - no Titmouse activity.

There is a remote possibility that this bird may have abandoned the territory. I fired a gun in that vicinity at 8:00 and again just before 11:00 shooting at Nyctidromus; this might have frightened the Titmouse into silence. The wind increased after 9:00, blowing loose oak leaves along the ground.

Mch 31. CLOUDING IN, CALM. I reached N-S trending fork of creek at 7:15 and crossed, working S on E bank. Exchange of song peet - - from S of area where I had worked yesterday but silence by 7:25 when I crossed gully. I worked farther S in that cleared area then turned W toward the creek and circled N across gully and back into Territory near road at 7:38. BREEZE from E at 7:45 - clouds had cleared.

At 7:55 I was standing under post oak 75 ft N of snag where I thought nest might be - I heard Tait and then song peer - - - and saw a perfect Black-crested Titmouse with food in beak in top of that post oak. He shifted perch uneasily, then flew E to twin post oak.



Mich 31. Spring Creek

100 ft away giving sit sit in flight. He sang from a branch there, then disappeared. Then sit sit in flight as 2 titmice flew N across road and foraged in small mesquites. They moved N out of my sight.

I moved across the road to two small postoaks <sup>125 ft.</sup> due N of the suspected nest tree. No titmouse activity until 8:13 when I heard souh duh duh call SW of me. At 8:14 a movement and I saw a titmouse fly into the E tree - it moved toward the central notch by degrees and entered a cavity there. Then I heard song peer — — — but couldn't see singer. At 8:17 same song from W toward the creek. WIND STRONGER to 8-10 mph.

The nest site tree was in an L shaped clump of 2 post oaks and 2 blackjacks, being the apex tree. It is about equidistant from creek and windmill and I'll refer to it as the "windmill nest" hereafter.

I walked S for 15 minutes, approaching a treeless deep-cut portion of the creek. I turned west, then heard song kidick kidick — — — (in 5's and 6's) and located singer at 8:40 in a live oak 40 ft high - bird sang same song (clearer peer — — once). I watched him in binoculars, definitely a Black-crested type with forehead whitish. His song continued until 8:46 by which time he had moved to the E part of that large tree - notes sit sit sit either from that part of the oak or from farther E seemed to be from a second bird (titmouse?). The singer moved E (to an oak 20 yards away I believe) and continued song. There were plaintive sit sit notes



H Dixon  
1951

Parus

Mar 31. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

from mesquite growth in between 2 oaks & song stopped.

At 9:52 both (?) had moved W and a Black-crested was calling vet vet vet from smaller live oak adjoining to N. It moved into large oak calling vet vet but plaintive set set was from branches on E side again. I could see no bird here & other moved N and was silent. I could see no cavity in branches on E side & am puzzled by this incident.

CLOUDS MOVING IN FROM S at 9:00.

I walked W to what apparently was the junction of two forks of Spring Creek, then N along the branch I had been working on, through the liveoaks to the road where I was parked. On the E bank about 75 ft S of the road at 9:17 I started to whistle and must have startled a Titmouse in so doing. This bird in a continuous canopy of liveoak foliage gave a call see soh duh duh duh (repeated twice) then moved S in front of me calling set infrequently. The bird apparently was alone.

Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I drove along the pipeline roadway to the river, a point about 400 yards downstream from the bridge, reaching this area about 3:40. I walked along the N bank to the first tributary, then up that creek 150 yards or so to the N then inland, crossing the creek at a broken wooden bridge and working downstream on the E side in mesquite, catclaw and blackbrush. WINDY, birds little in evidence. At 4:10 I crossed to the W bank opposite where I had seen a singing Titmouse on March 18. A flock of small birds was foraging





Mar 31 Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas  
in some elm? trees there, among them 2 titmice identified  
by sight, not voice. They foraged there for a few minutes  
during which time I could not keep both of them in sight.  
One was blackish-crested, the other I didn't see. The  
former led the way to some blackbrush to the N, then  
again to growth across the stream as I approached. I  
followed up but couldn't locate the birds. Their only calls  
were soft sit sit. This is the area occupied by one  
of my "unmated males". I left at 4:40.

Apr. 1 Clouds came in during early morning hours and the sky  
was completely overcast at daybreak, remaining so until  
noon. The breeze came up from the S after 8:00 but not  
so strongly as on preceding days. The day was fairly warm,  
68°F at 6:30 a.m.

I left the house at 6:30, walking to the creek S of the barn. No  
titmouse calls from that area so I walked upstream on the  
S bank, reaching the pipeline at 7:00. From there I walked  
S along the E fence of the Driscoll property. At a brown  
metal gate, the apparent entrance to the Rodriguez property  
I heard titmouse song peta peta to the east of the fence.

I turned W toward the live oaks along the road leading  
S from the bridge. Crossing this road I proceeded NW in  
an area with dead brush scattered about, thoroughly  
"chained." At 7:20 I heard song peta peta north of  
me; I located the singer in the last live oaks before reaching  
the riverbank woodland. There were two titmice present  
and I stalked them patiently. The ♂ changed his song



Parus

April 1. Aransas River,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas  
to tree tree tree for a while. I saw no evidence of  
feeding of the ♀ by the ♂. Both birds kept touch by  
location notes. One, then the other flew to a small  
oak along a gully and I took ♀, then ♂. The ♀ (#523)  
had a shell-less egg in the oviduct, possibly having laid  
an egg earlier in the day. I preserved her ovary in  
Borins fluid. Later I determined that the point  
where I took these birds was about midway between the  
bridge and the area where I took a ♂ (#498) from a pair  
on March 26. The pair taken here might have been the  
pair noted at noon on March 17 in liveoaks to the S.

At 7:55 I walked W through the area where #498 was  
taken but was unable to get my bearings. I continued  
west to the fence diagramed on March 26 (the west fence  
line runs at about  $235^\circ$  compass). I walked along this  
fence past where I had taken #497 to a streambed, the  
second one of any size tributary to the Aransas on its S bank  
upstream from the bridge. I am now certain of my bearings  
and feel positive that #492 and 497 were mates.

I started E along the fence then heard song "peer-  
peer" from N of the fence at 8:15. I followed the bird  
around after it came near when I squeaked (gun left S of  
fence) I watched the bird for several minutes as it sang  
incessantly, a "Black-crested" type. Having failed to  
get a shot at a solitary bird on March 25 100 yds S  
of here & then seeing a Wren ♂ alone, singing steadily  
made me believe that he was unmated. I went after



April 1 Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

my shotgun and, knowing that I was trespassing, fired hastily three times. I lost track of the bird and fear that he was wounded and lost.

I retraced my steps along the S bank, getting my landmarks and locating the area where I had taken #498, listening but hearing no titmouse call. I went E and relocated the point where I had taken 523-524. It was now 9:20 and I walked SE through the liveoaks to the corner gate at the end of the road (mapped in my journal for March 19) [I had heard titmouse song there after 7:00 am this morning] I heard song peta peta and crawled under fence S of road moving S through the mesquite for several hundred yards. It became evident to me that two birds were exchanging songs; they appeared to be moving S, within 50 yards of the Rodriguez fence. One singer at 9:40 moved a bit NW of the other continuing its song but warily keeping ahead of me as I tried to stalk it. It shifted perch several times, once flying 20 yards or so W, but keeping up its song. When I was in sight the bird gave see see a "fear note" then alternated see tee (not plaintive) and peta peta the melodious song. (Other bird continued to answer from SE). I finally took the solitary bird (#525) with a half load. (This may have been the individual I fired at farther W on March 25).

I went over to the fence and walked S, following the singing ♂ which moved S in oaks and mesquite a few yards west of



April 1. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas  
the Rodriguez fence. It moved at a rapid pace singing  
steadily, accompanied by gnatcatchers, warblers, and  
another titmouse. I finally caught up with them and  
waited until they moved E from mesquite thicket to oak clump  
along driveway. The male sang from a conspicuous perch  
and I took the ♀ (#526) pulling the wrong barrel (1/2 load).  
Her mate flew across the road and sang from the Rodriguez  
property tree tree tree and peta — — —, steadily for  
4 or 5 minutes (estimated). I waited where I had taken  
the ♀ and finally he returned to sing from there. I  
shot but didn't get him and he moved S rapidly  
singing peta peta from one post then the next keeping out  
of gun range. I finally took him with a half load  
(#527), shortly before 10:00.

I paced the distance N to the gate at 880 yards.  
No titmouse calls along this way as I continued to the  
river and thence to the house via the N bank.

From the house from 11:00 until 1:00 steadily and  
sporadically in the afternoon I could hear song  
peta peta peta in the riverbank woodland due S  
of the house. Unmated ♂?

April 2. Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas, SUNNY, WIND  
FROM EAST 10 MPH. I walked along the E bank of the river upstream  
for 150 yards from the highway 77 bridge. Willow and other  
deciduous trees leafed out, to 40 ft or so in height in some cases.  
No titmouse heard, 7:30 - 7:45.





K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Apr. 2 Mission River at Refugio, 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas

I hunted along the creek (or river) S of the railroad bridge from 9:00 am on (I had seen County Agent and Sheriff, Mr. Hunsdorf and game warden, Mr. W.T. Harris at courthouse in Refugio — the thought no one would bother me if I hunted along the river). I found no ~~traces~~ <sup>traces</sup> along the W bank of this oil-polluted stream until 9:32 when I heard some soft notes in a grove of trees 50 yards west of the stream. One bird on 18 ft or so above ground pulling off plant fibers apparently from bark — beak full — bird flew N 40 feet, shifted perch several times, disappeared farther N. This individual had a sooty gray crest and whitish forehead; its mate in the same tree when it had been gathering nesting material had a blackish crest and whitish forehead. I did not see it fly.

I worked along in the woods, N to the footbridge, S to where I had gathered nest material and generally through the woods. Saw one Carolina Chickadee. At 10:02 I heard song payta payta and 5 minutes later I saw the ♂ in a dead tree along the drainage ditch from an oil pump(?) He continued singing until mate appeared from behind one of the trunks — she perched and fluttered wings and gave twitter. ♂ flew down behind grape vines and I think mate joined him. I heard twitter, then ♀ returned to nest, then flew to trees S of clearing — both birds flew S at 10:10 — I waited there. I couldn't tell exactly where nest cavity was <sup>but</sup> WIND STRONG FROM EAST. (in stump of hollow limb about 10 ft. above ground.)

I walked down through woods to where I had gathered nest material and back to nest site 10:20 — 10:35 — no vocalization



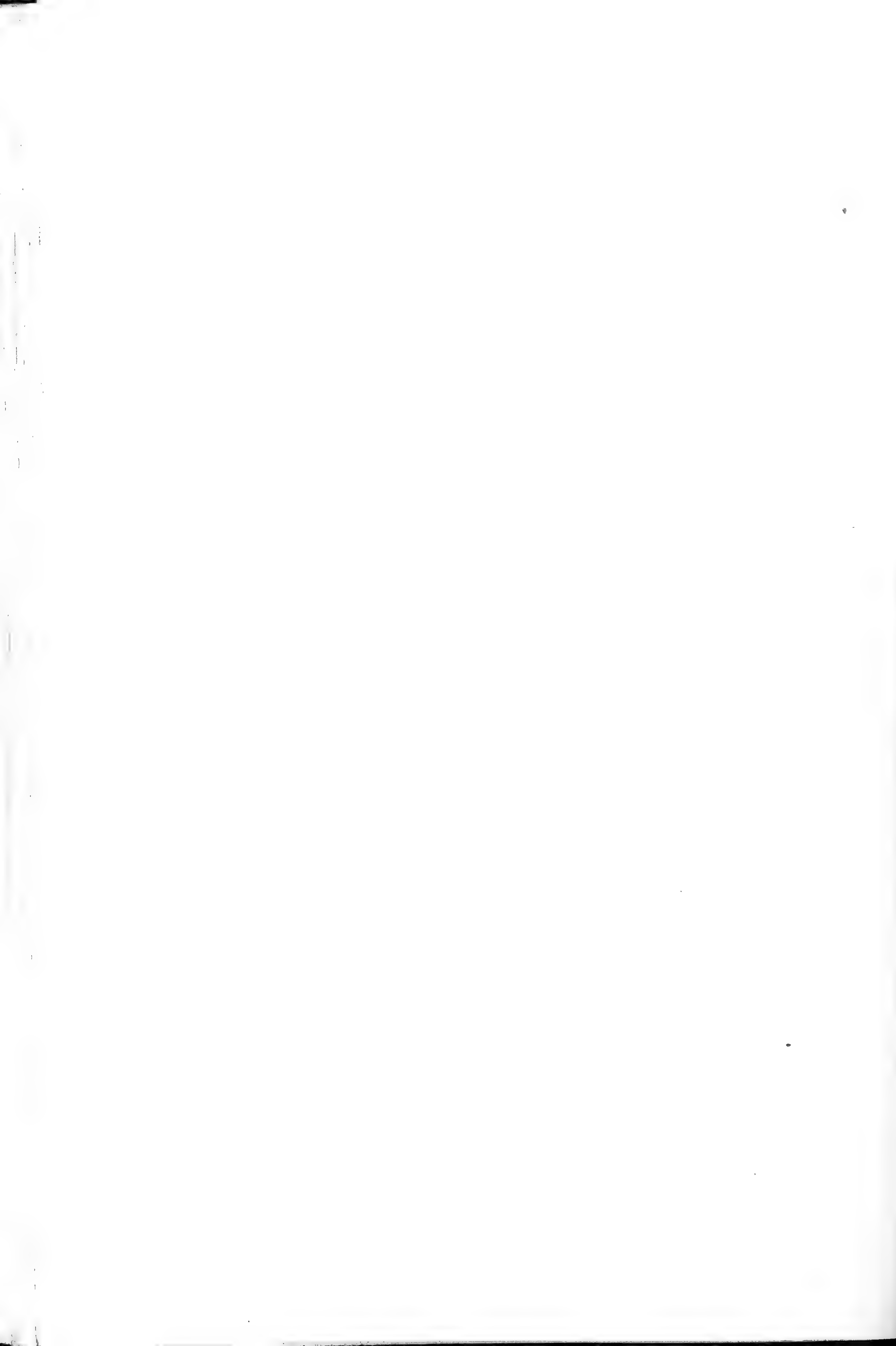
Parus

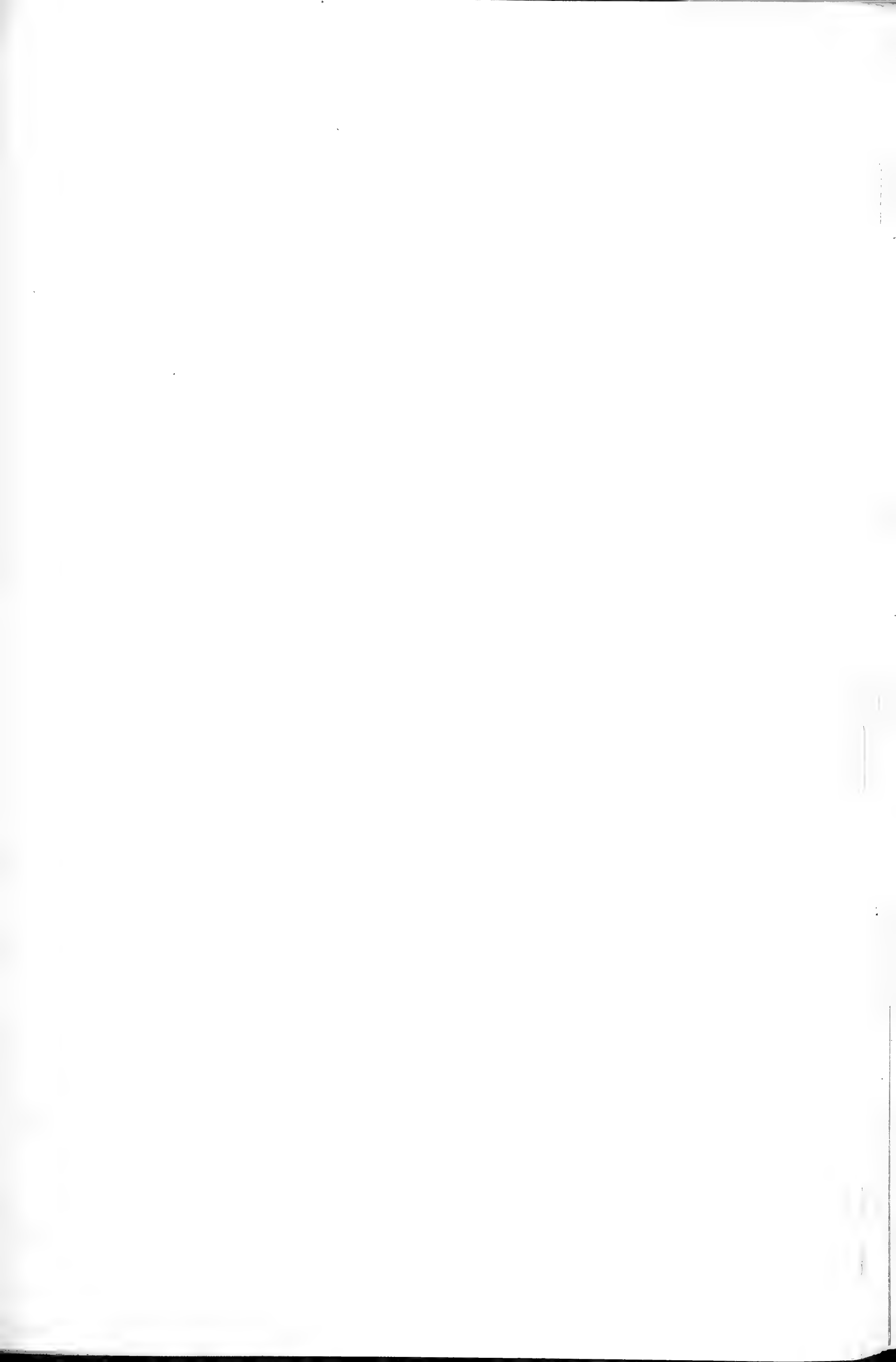
Apr. 2 Mission River at Refugio 50 ft., Refugio Co., Texas

I walked S again after 10:40 moving along the riverbank then inland. At 10:48 I heard sit sit then vet vet vet louder and two birds flew into tree adjacent to one where ♀ had gathered ~~nest~~ material earlier. Two birds there; "scooping" soon subsided and one started to gather nest material, other silent in downed tree nearby. I took the ♀ (#528) with moss in her beak, then the ♂ which perched motionless in dense twiggy, then shifted to point where I could see him (#529). I collected some plant specimens and checked the distance from point where moss being collected to nest, about 120 yards. The woods here were dense with some trailing vines, the aspect reminding me somewhat of the bottom timber along the Rio Grande. See plant catalogue and journal for further details.

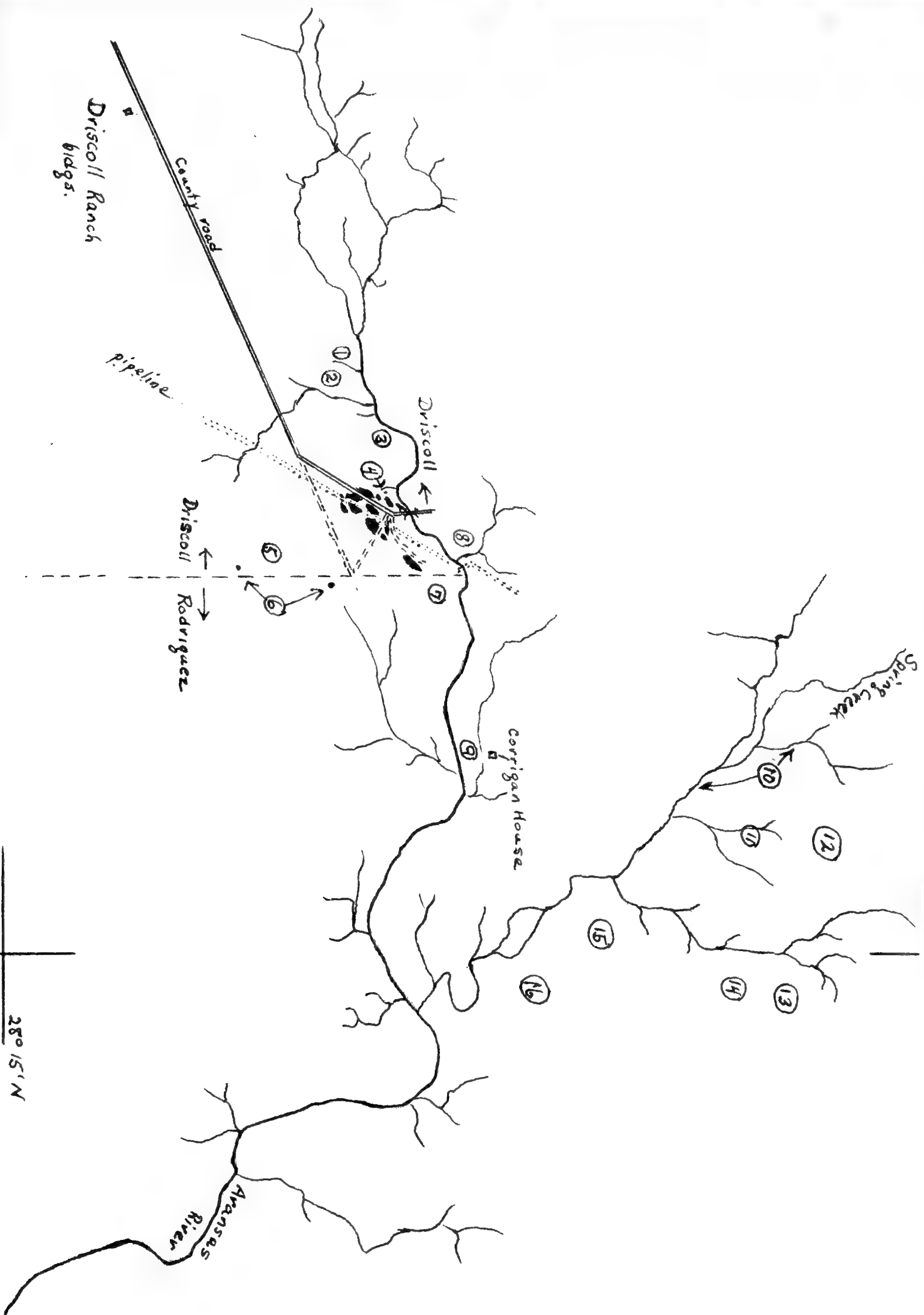
I walked a few yards W of the nest tree at 11:20 and heard song and "Tee see suh suh dut" or "Tee see suh vuh dut" a call given by the singing bird when I approached within his view. Bird was in scrubby growth (mesquite, a rhamnaceous shrub, etc.) NW of the oil refinery or pump; thus about 40 yards W of the nest tree. He sang steadily when I moved back out of view and seemed to be alone. I took him about 11:32 after watching him. - His behavior contrasted to #529

The three birds taken were the only Titmice I saw in this area of something over half a mile of riverbank. I had an impression that the season here was in advance of that on the Gransas as far as vegetation was concerned. I left the area at 12:00.





- ① Unmated ♂ N of Driscoll property (Mch. 25, April 1)
- ② ♀ 492, ♂ 498<sup>7</sup>, almost certainly a mated pair
- ③ ♂ 498 of a mated pair, ♀ not taken
- ④ ♀ 523, ♂ 524 probably ranging N from liveoaks.
- ⑤ ♂ 525, unmated, ranging N to road (mesquite-liveoak)
- ⑥ ♀ 526, ♂ 527 ranging as indicated " "
- ⑦ area where song heard April 1, 7:05 a.m.
- ⑧ Solitary ♂ March 18, pair March 31 (♀ the mate of 498?)
- ⑨ Persistent song April 1, 2, 3
- ⑩ ♂ 514, unmated
- ⑪ ♀ 510, ♂ 511 mated pair taken here March 29  
Perhaps at western edge of territory
- ⑫ Persistently singing ♂, Mch 29, 30, April 4.
- ⑬ Lone ♂ 515 taken in post oak "savanna" & liveoaks
- ⑭ "windmill" nest discovered Mch 31
- ⑮ Approximate area where singing titmouse seen  
Mch 31, April 4 ("giant liveoak")
- ⑯ Area where ♂ 534 taken April 4



28° 15' N  
97° 35' W





K Dixon  
1951

Parus

April 2. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas. During late afternoon (calm, sunny) I did not hear calls nor song from Titmouse along river S of house.

April 3. I did not hear Titmouse in dawn chorus S of house but heard him sing for a while beginning at 6:40. I walked along the N bank of the creek in that area 7:20 - 7:40 but did not hear him. Bird sang again however just prior to 8:00 am.

I drove down to the river along the oil line road at 3:45 and commenced mapping. Following notes are per pocket compass reading: fence separating Rodriguez - Driscoll properties runs due N-S. pipeline S of creek runs SW at 200°. Roadway (or firebreak leading NW from road extension and locked gate at Driscoll - Rodriguez line runs at 300°

I paced across the bridge the width of the streambank woodland: N bank E of bridge 60 yards (generous), S bank W bridge, 50 yds. I think the distance on an average varies from 50 - 75 yds under natural conditions. I noted live oak trees along the S bank below the bridge.

April 4 Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas. SUNNY MORNING, CALM, 50° F at 6:00 am. I drove to the area NE of where I took ♂ 514 (March 30) and N of Territory of 510 and 511, reaching there at 7:10. I walked N slowly and at 7:23 heard song "tree — —". I located singer in post oak, perched well up in this leafless tree, erect in the posture a Wood Pewee often assumes. It was 150 yards E and 200 yards N of white corner of fence mentioned previously (distances paced). The bird moved S to a point E of that corner and changed



K Dixon  
1951

Parus

April 4. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Shidmore, Bee Co., Calif.  
its song to the slower peta peta. It was still  
singing in this post oak woodland at 8:05.

At 8:20 along the tributary to the E song peta peta (windmill  
nest area). I walked S through post oak savanna which  
changed to mesquite - live oak about 1/2 way to the SE trending  
main branch of the creek. About 150 yds E of the mouth of the  
tributary I heard song tür tür tür in 10 to 11 phrases  
per song and located the singer keeping well concealed  
in a live oak at 8:45 — 5 min later as I started to  
walk SE toward the giant live oak 200 yards away, he  
changed to peer — — slower, about 8 or 9 phrases  
to each burst of song.

WIND moderate from SE AFTER 8:15

I heard no timice in vicinity of big oak visited  
and think that singing ♂ to W was the same bird seen on that  
date. I walked S to where the creek swings SE leaving whitish  
bluffs to SW. I walked E across mouth of a small tributary  
across a ridge to a second larger tributary with, however,  
only scattered live oaks along its course. Here at 9:20 a ♂  
was singing tür — — and I followed it along —  
peta peta from east of creeklet at 9:25. I managed a shot  
at this bird with a .38 & missed — it flew to post oak 20 yds  
E of where I had shot at it calling vet vet vet  
over & over. Then bird flew S for several trees in  
succession singing "peer peer peer" keeping ahead of  
me, singing steadily. Then it flew into live oak  
covered with staminate catkins.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus

April 4 Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ESE Skidmore, 175 ft., Bee Co., Texas

There ~~to~~ mouse gave series of soft sit-sit-sit notes almost a twitter and simultaneously fluttered its wings. I looked in vain for another ~~to~~ mouse. This behavior phase passed off in a few seconds and bird began to forage on catkins — I took it <sup>at 9:40</sup> with a halfload, close range at that. Bird ♂ #534 had pale crest + most chestnut I have seen on forehead of those taken by me.

I walked S to the northward loop of the first oxbow reached traveling downstream (9:55) and gradually worked downstream. I expected to reach a road crossing where I had been on March 28. However, I got crossed up in my plan to return up Spring Creek and instead went up the Aransas. I turned N on a stream course which proved to have the road crossing I was seeking — it lay W Spring Creek. I walked W a few hundred yards to the house, arriving at 11:40. I had heard no ~~to~~ mice since taking the one at 9:40 (on March 28 I heard one in the area between Spring Creek and the small stream course to the W).

April 5. Calm, overcast; had rained lightly before dawn. I heard the ~~to~~ mouse singing periodically from 6:00 - 9:00 am along the Aransas River S of the house.



H Dixon  
1951

Parus

April 7. Colorado River at Austin, 650 ft., Travis Co., Texas

From about 9:00 to 9:30 am [windy, sunny], Homer W. Phillips and I walked along the south bank of the stream downstream from the Congress Ave. Bridge. In this area (N of Riverside Dr.) was a narrow riparian or floodplain forest of cottonwood, Acer, and willow near the water's edge. The understory was not well developed. We saw a Blue Jay and Mourning Doves but neither saw nor heard Wmice.

[I returned to the area, 6:35 - 6:50. Calm. I heard no Wmice but saw a Red-bellied Wolphr ♀ and a Belted Kingfisher in that area]

Phillips and I drove to an area E of town where Walnut Creek joins Colorado River, Travis Co., Texas. Here on the N bank there was only a thin fringe of cottonwoods and willows and a few other trees such as Acer along the mouth of the creek. We saw no Wmice in the half hour or so we were in there prior to 10:30.

We spent about half an hour on Dr. W F Blain's farm N of Walnut Creek several miles. In mixed mesquite - deciduous woodland we heard one titmouse singing hear hear hear but couldn't locate him. We departed at 11:30.





K Dixon  
1951

Parus

4 mi. SW  
April 7 Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, Travis Co., Texas

Clear, calm morning. I drove out the Fredricksburg Hwy to the Gaines Ranch on which Univ. Texas biologists are privileged to collect. I was accompanied by a graduate student, Homer W. Phillips. The ranch proper is situated on the edge of the plateau where it is dissected by several small streamcourses. Vegetation of this hilly area was a woodland of cedar (Juniperus mexicana), Spanish oak (Q. texana), liveoak, hackberry on the uplands. Along the creek bottom grew elms, hackberries and other deciduous trees. We spent about 1 1/2 hours prospecting in the area and found the Black-crowned Titmouse rather abundant in the uplands but found no Titmice in the riparian trees. Carolina Chickadee in uplands as were Cardinals, Lark Sparrows. White-eyed Vireo along stream.

April 8. SUNNY, CALM. I reached the Gaines Farm at 7:00 a.m. and walked down to the creek bottom directly. I walked upstream in the elm grove where Phillips and I had gone yesterday. Two ♂ Titmice were carrying on a song exchange in an area of elm-juniper on a shelf at the base of the hill. I followed the ♂ to the N (black crested, forehead white) for 15 minutes, at first merely watching him, later unable to get close enough to take the bird. He sang peter peter peter intermittently once gave scold see sa vet vet. He used elms as ~~at~~ song posts for the most part, often taking conspicuous perches.

I left area at 7:40 walking S to path leading to farmhouse then N along the creek. At 8:00 I heard



Apr 8 Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
song in elms toward base of hill. I encountered a pair  
in elm clump surrounded by junipers and watched them  
momentarily. One dropped into junipers W and I took the  
other, calling sit sit as it foraged (♀, 537). I then  
followed its mate as it foraged in elm shrubs & juniper  
giving frequent location notes. I missed a rather long  
shot at it & heard no more of this bird.

I walked N after 8:30 and followed a trail up a gentle slope,  
rock-covered. Shrubs appeared to be poison oak, Rhus trilobata  
elm, juniper, #410 = Berberis. I heard exchange of song and  
walked across a clearing into an elm grove. Here one bird  
was singing hear hear hear being answered by peter  
peter peter to N. South bird changed to that song. I stalked  
through underbrush and decaying juniper trees which had been  
cleared and saw mate of singer in tree and took her (538)  
♂ continued to sing and I took him also (539 ♂). Trees here  
predominantly elm with Spanish Oak - (juniper had been cut)

At 9:15 I walked N and located pair along a ~~mead~~<sup>stream-</sup>  
course which drained from the W. Vegetation here was Spanish  
oak - live oak (juniper had been cut, few elms). I followed  
this way pair as one bird scolded(?) enk enk or vet vet  
the nasal vehement call of atricristatus. One foraged in  
juniper up slope other 40 ft E in Spanish oak (this bird  
called vet vet vet sharply several times, received no answer  
and flew W into juniper thicket where other bird had gone.

I was unable to locate them thereafter. Bobwhite  
Quail a few yards down slope (1 flushed)



Apr 8 Barton Creek, 4 mi. ESE Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

I remained in that area until 9:55 and heard Titmouse (presumably of the same pair seen 9:30) to N once during this 25 minutes. I retraced my steps paralleling the base of the hill in a general SE direction. I heard two ♂♂ singing in the general area where ♀ 537 was taken but was confused as to that location and the area where I had watched a lone bird 7:20 - 7:40. I reached the path leading to the farm buildings at 10:15. Titmouse singing in juniper - Spanish oak of slope there and 2 others in clearing where residence lies. The density here is marked in comparison to the Guadalupe River country.

I left the farm at 10:40 after taking 2 photographs.

LIGHT BREEZE intermittent after 8:30

♀ 537 had brood patch well developed <sup>(oviduct diminished in size;</sup> ovary preserved in formalin

♀ 538 appeared to be laying or would do so in a day or two largest ovum 7 mm; oviduct larger than ♀ 538 - brood patch not noticeably thickened nor extensive.

Apr. 9 HIGH THIN CLOUDS DIMMING SUN; CALM. I reached the Gaines farm at 7:20 and walked to the edge of the flat on which the buildings are situated, the brink of the Barton Creek gorge which is perhaps 100 ft deep.

7:22 Titmouse singing in "cedar" elm on flat a song very rapid consisting of coupled "hear" notes as hear hear - hear hear - etc: soon shifted to <sup>"hear"</sup> ~~hear~~ "hear" of usual slower spacing then peter peter in answer to ♂ to SW. Singer was a typically black-capped bird. His mate



Apr 9 Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
flew to a liveoak 20 ft SE and I watched them forage there.  
Male gave notes si ouh out from time to time, a sort of  
subdued scold type note; also tsit - ♂ sang from time  
to time. The two worked on terminal twigs (leaves and catkins  
new) and on bark of larger limbs. ♀ with duller crest and  
creamy chestnut forehead. What I took to be courtship feeding  
took place once with intensified chuh ouh out of (♀) bird  
(actual feeding screened from my view). Titmice occasionally  
would be foraging and without warning or evident external  
stimulus would drop downward or dart 3 to 6 feet lower  
in tree to a new perch - foraging would be continued as tho -  
without interruption.

I walked down the slope along a fence which trended compass E.  
Near the bottom I heard titmice (soft calls) but could not see  
bird (I think 2 were present) This was along edge of cliff  
cut by a tributary in area where I had seen titmouse on my way out  
yesterday. I approached from stream bottom but saw no sign  
of the birds.

At 7:55 I started N in canyon bottom. 8:08 song N of  
stake labeled "90" - titmouse in junipers with a few elms and  
liveoak at stake "78" peer - - - - - very fast and  
peter peter barely) Bird flew southerly at 8:15 changed  
direction when it saw me flying instead to elm east.

Chlee chi out out out out out scold flat not the  
piercing atricristatus note (this at 8:15) bird flew S and  
sang as before from there. Silent at 8:22 - song resumed  
4 minutes later farther S. I tried to stalk this bird but





K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Apr. 9 Barton Cr., 4 mi SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
it flew N again and I gave up the chase at 8:35. This ♂  
had been exchanging song with a bird farther S.

I worked S to the fence, heard song from the mouth of the  
tributary canyon and spent some time calling up other birds.  
I started down the canyon at 9:00. There was a ~~titmouse~~  
singing on the N side of the creek in junipers but not  
steadily. I worked downstream and spent a few minutes  
in collecting a blue jay. One ~~titmouse~~ downstream was singing  
rather frequently. In this area there was a rocky bluff  
about 50 ft high on the S side of the creek and a gentle  
slope to the N. Above the cliff was a dense woodland of  
juniper, elm, and Spanish oak while a fringe at the base of  
the cliff included oaks. There were a few sycamores along  
the creek as well — large rocks in stream course, not  
a running stream at present. I located a ~~titmouse~~ singing  
steadily in tall timber and took him at 9:40 (#541).

As I walked upstream I heard a song exchange between  
the ♂ at the mouth of the tributary and the one on the N bank.  
I ran down the latter; bird scolding me in sycamore having  
moved downstream — ret ret ret. Bird believed to be a  
~~titmouse~~ flew across creek (broad here at bend). Individual  
I was watching flew across also, to juniper and then oak  
at top of cliff — sang from there. I started up the  
hill at 10:00.



K Dixon

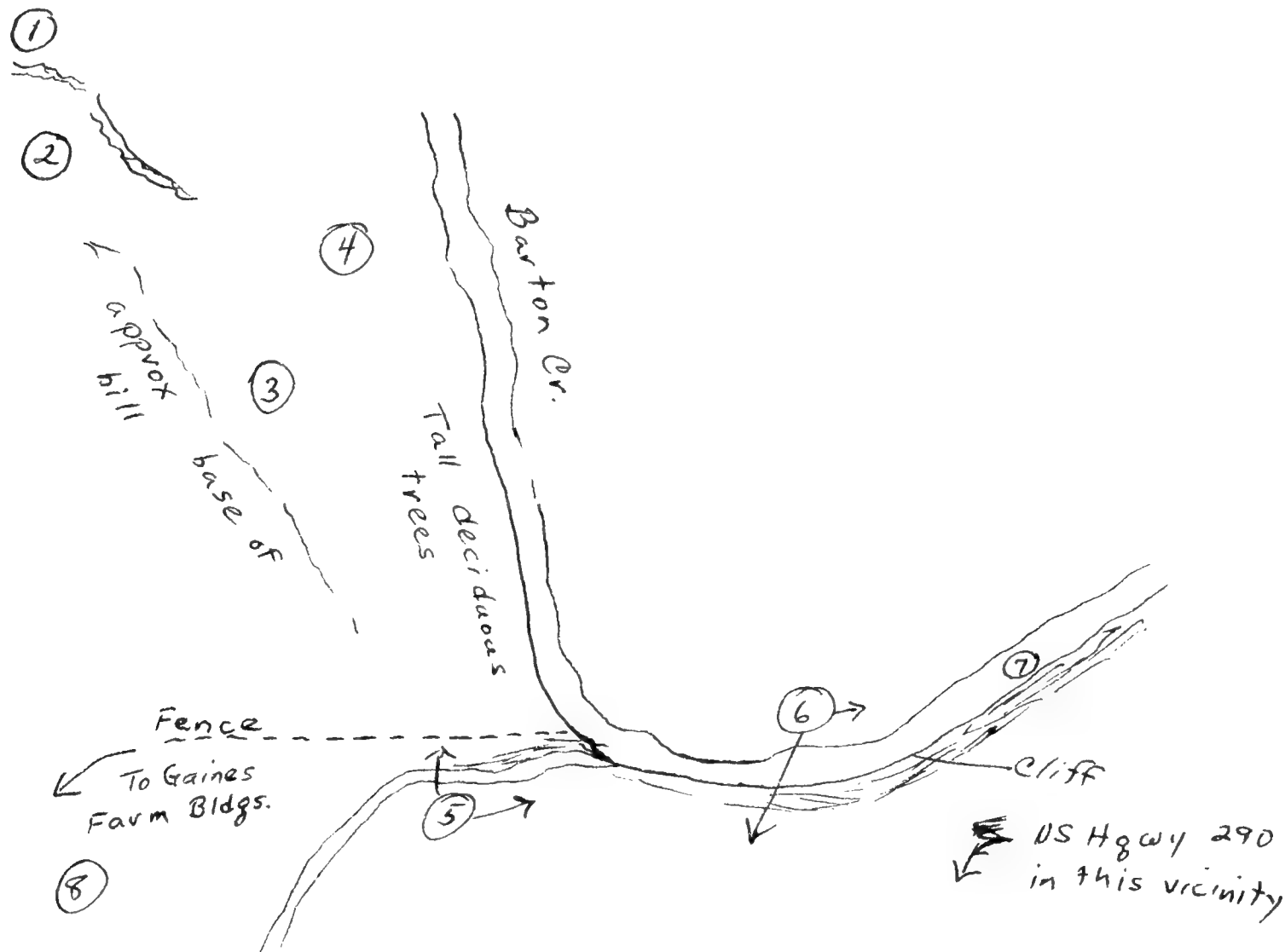
Parus

1951

Barton Cr., 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Apr 8-9

(sketch from memory April 10 - not drawn to scale)



- ① Area inhabited by a pair 9:00-9:20 Apr. 8 in cedar elm, juniper, Spanish oak, live oak
- ② Pair adjacent to 5 ( $\pm$  538 ♀, 539 ♂)
- ③ Area occupied by singing ♂ (alone) 8:00-8:30 Apr 9 (7:30 Apr 8?)
- ④ ? Area where 537 ♀ taken April 8
- ⑤ Area occupied by singing ♂ (paired?) 7:45 Apr. 9
- ⑥ Area where (probable) pair seen, 9:50 Apr. 9
- ⑦ 541 ♂ unmated taken in adjacent territory downstream
- ⑧ Pair observed 7:30 April 9 at brink of canyon (territory adjacent to ⑤) [Another ♂ singing to W of ⑧]



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 12 1 mi. SW Leon Springs, ±1200ft, Bexar Co., Texas. I visited this area, approximate type locality of P. a. sennetti Redgway, accompanied by David J. Bullock, an elderly collector now residing in San Antonio. We were granted permission to hunt there by the leasee, proprietor of the B-29 Cafe in Leon Springs.

The slopes in the area over which I hunted, 9:00 am to 10:30 am were covered with a dense woodland of low juniper trees with liveoaks and Spanish oaks scattered among them. The Black-capped Titmouse was a common bird in here - I did some poor shooting with Mr. Bullock, .22 - 410 and let 2 ♂♂ escape me. During the next hour I hunted in Spanish oaks along a brook and in an area of groves of taller oaks and elms along a creek. Here I took a silent member of one pair, the bird proving to be a ♂ (#545) and the noisy member of another pair, a ♀ (#546). Their mates escaped in each case.

The area appears somewhat similar to the uplands above Barton Creek in Travis County, possibly a bit drier. Common birds of the area included

Scrub-jay (1 taken)

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Carolina Chickadee

Golden-cheeked Warbler

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Redder-bellied Warbler

Hermit Thrush

Field Sparrow

Lark Sparrow



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 13 Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

Clear, calm, 7:50 am. Hilly country cut by creek with leafless sycamores in bottom. No running water. Carolina Chickadee singing. Turkey common in area. Titmorse pair in oaks at base of hill S of creek - "courtship" feeding sit sit sit and wing flutter of ♀ chuk duk duk duk as ♂ near with food

8:01 ♀ perched on low limb see but over & over with wing flutter - continued after ♂ sang peer - - - - ♀ apparently foraging for herself - sooty blackish crest white forehead (broad)

♀ flew 25 yds to creek at 8:03 ♂ flew there & sang (answer from creek SE). I crossed main branch there - singing bird was on slope to E separated by a planted field so I left there and worked SW. Titmorse along fence crossing of creek moved NW onto hill slope S of pair seen at 8:00 They exchanged song after 8:15 (song also from W around hill.) Bird I was following seemed to be alone - sang steadily even after neighbors had ceased - at 8:20 flew S along slope

At 8:30 I located singing bird to W along tributary near road crossing - ♂ fed begging mate than sang peer - - - - Titmorse down stream gave vehement vet vet vet vet over & over seemingly alone this bird may have been bird seen to E Song tur tur - - - at 8:33 as bird move E from tributary below W pair.

No Titmice as I walked N until 8:43 - 8:45 when pair in area between main branch & tributary ♂ singing alternately with bird E of plowed field - these the 8:00 Titmice

WIND FROM W came up suddenly ± 10 mph

I walked up hill to N (W main branch of creek)





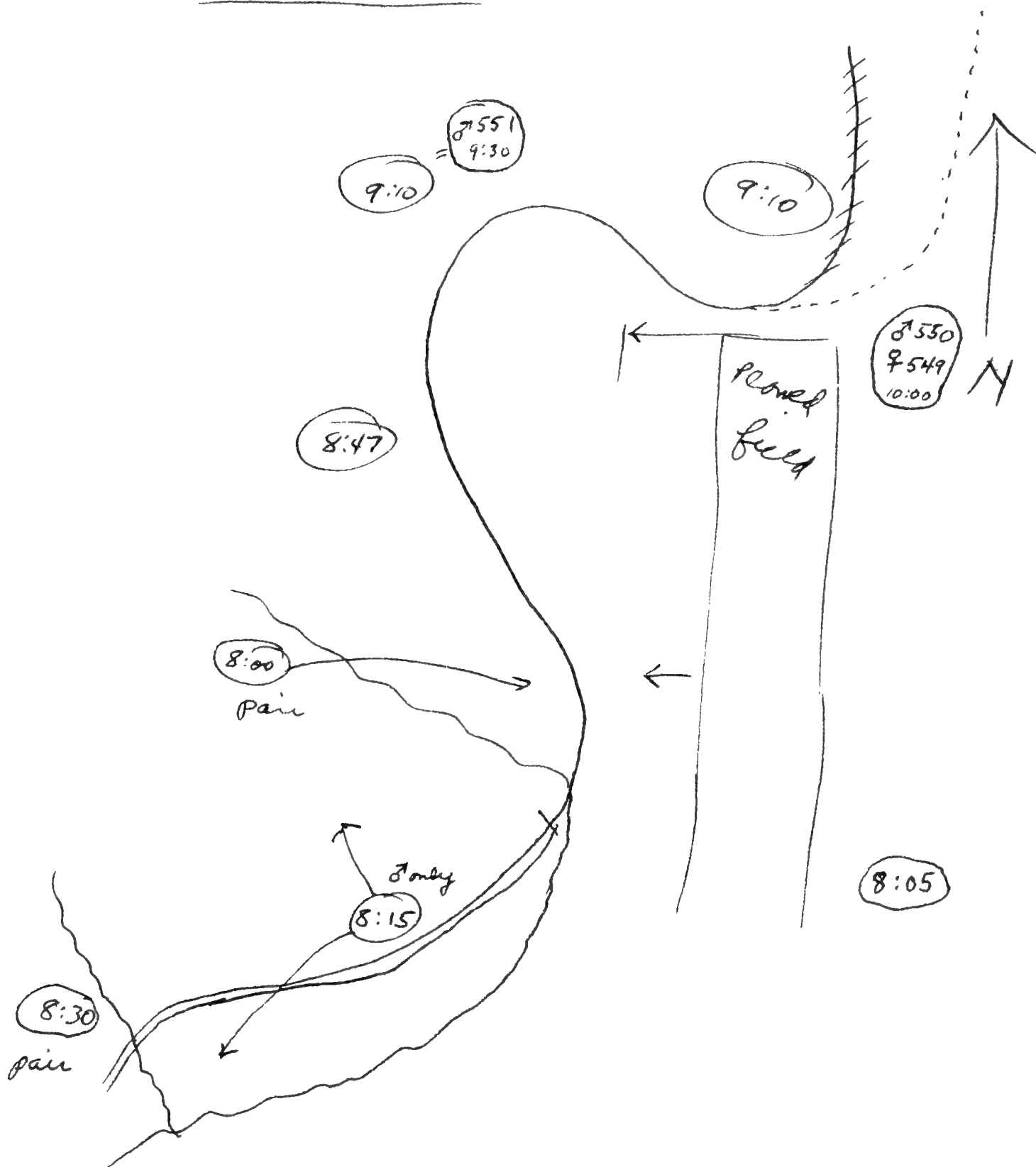
K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr 13 Sabine Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

Here were junipers and Spanish oaks, the latter out in leaf in contrast to those at base of hills. Titmouse singing tur - - on this slope just W bluff of creek at 8:47

I worked W then N to top of hill & arched E to edge. At 9:08 song tur tur tur from SE. At 9:10 song from below to del del del del in answer from crest then tur tur in answer to tree tree tree





Apr. 13 Sabina Ranch

Song exchange continued until 9:17 - bird on slope continued peer - - - and bird on flat gave vet vet vet, This exchange continued until 9:30 when I took the bird on the slope. It had been singing almost continuously, the bird along the creek answering intermittently. However the latter sang petapeta peta peta 9:33-34.

Titmouse singing in area S of main branch and E of field at 9:40 At 9:45 I found one in juniper clump there - it gave call redeck redeck and widick widick widick grating calls - bird hopped about in junipers

WIND STRONGER again Carolina Chickadee singing in same trees Titmouse silent by 9:49 but gave a "redeck" call at 9:53 from same juniper clump.

At 9:55 song cheer - - - from upstream bird in juniper answered immediately tur - - - - a dozen syllables per song - another Titmouse seemed to be calling as he sang 9:56 singer in Spanish oak NE song from upstream faint - chickadee dut as he sang

♂ flew back to there sounded like a battle in the juniper clump see see vuh dut and det det det gurgling call of P. carolinensis and su fee su bee song of that bird. Cause of contention I could not see but dispute vehement - I took one bird after singing chickadee had moved E and waited for the second to come into view. After my first shot, silence prevailed for a minute or so then ♂ began to sing peer peer peer and chickadee called To E After several minutes I shot the ♂



K. Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 13 Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

the same dead liveoak crown in the middle of the juniper clump - (I had to climb 15 ft after both birds).

I was impressed with the actions of this male as contrasted to those of the bird taken on the opposite slope. This ♂ sang infrequently, only in answer to other ♂♂ as a rule - otherwise he was silent and not especially active.

The quarrel seemed to be with a pair of chickadees possibly over a nest site -

No further song upstream - I started for there at 10:35 and soon heard song peer - - Then farther over peta or payta - -. The singer downstream & W (at N end of clearing) became silent but bird to N (N of tributary) sang on. I sat down E of where he was in juniper-oak at 10:40 ek ek of ~~to~~ mouse simultaneously near to me - his mate?

I worked W from stock trail & then S toward tributary. At 10:45 ~~to~~ mouse commenced call tee see see vet vet exceedingly rapid as it hopped about in several leafless oaks in succession (I knelt in open 50 ft away all this while) No answering calls

At 10:49 bird flew to liveoaks 40 ft NW called once then sit sit then hammering ensued (rather tsip) Then other call resumed. These were continued for several minutes - At 10:49 I started S & crossed tributary and a minute later, call changed to song "cheer cheer cheer - - -" No answer from S. Song continued steadily as I walked S at 11:03 No activity in oaks S of creek so I walked S into clearing,



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 13 Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

In this clearing, a "bench" between the edge of the hill and the creek, east 15 ft deeper. The trees had been burned off in this field 50 yds wide. When I was about 125 yds S of the tributary I heard a scolding vet vet vet from oaks to W and saw a ~~titmouse~~ there. He flew E to a juniper on the bank of the creek and sang softly peer peer peer from there. Within about 15 seconds his mate called vet vet from oak from which he had flown. She flew to join him & both moved E at 11:07 WIND STRONGER AFTER a calm hour. I crossed creek and tried to follow but they moved N & I lost them in vicinity of the only juniper on the W bank at 11:13. I walked N — at 11:20 ~~titmouse~~ I left at 10:55 singing E of stocktrail & N of tributary — exchange of song with bird to SE — I believe this may be the bird from S along the creek.

I stalked the singer tur tur tur over & over, seemed to be alone. I spattered him with a dud .38 load; he flew N into another Spanish oak, then resumed song — I waited and shot him with a .410 but looked in vain for the corpse — I did not see him fall & presume the load was too weak to kill. I started S at 11:45.

A few minutes later I approached the same juniper tree & heard calls, one bird in sycamore trees on stream and song peer peer peer from E. Bird in sycamores moved into juniper next to S and I watched it, then turned to watch two other ~~titmice~~ upstream in a third juniper (lower on bank) one of these sang while the other flew to Spanish oak 15 ft NW





Parus atricristatus

Apr 13 Sabine's Ranch

I took the latter, wounding her (552), then took her mate as he flew to where the wounded bird lay crying (I wounded him, broken right wing) <sup>SEE BELOW</sup> Both cried out calls which I did not record, perhaps loud fear calls(?) As they cried out a third mouse moved about overhead calling see duh duh dut and dah dut duh dut much agitated. Another mouse called chuh duh dut from junipers E of brook (running here). I was unable to reload in time to take these birds. They did not return when I squeaked. At 12:00 I heard dah duh dut from oaks W clearing and later a scold from junipers E.

While these 4 birds had been assembled here I heard song farther upstream.

Further notes - the wounded ♂ picked at his broken wing much agitated and I suspect more afraid of his inability to fly than from pain [in preparing birds, I found that ♀ was bird with broken right wing - both dropped at same point and I confused the two subsequently. ♀ = 552] Toleration of intruders? by birds which were laying intrigues & puzzles me.

Aerial photo Taken Jan 26, 1946

Contractor's number DDH - 9 - 29

T-7 is reference number in file, Production and Marketing Admin. Office, Courthouse, Keokuk.

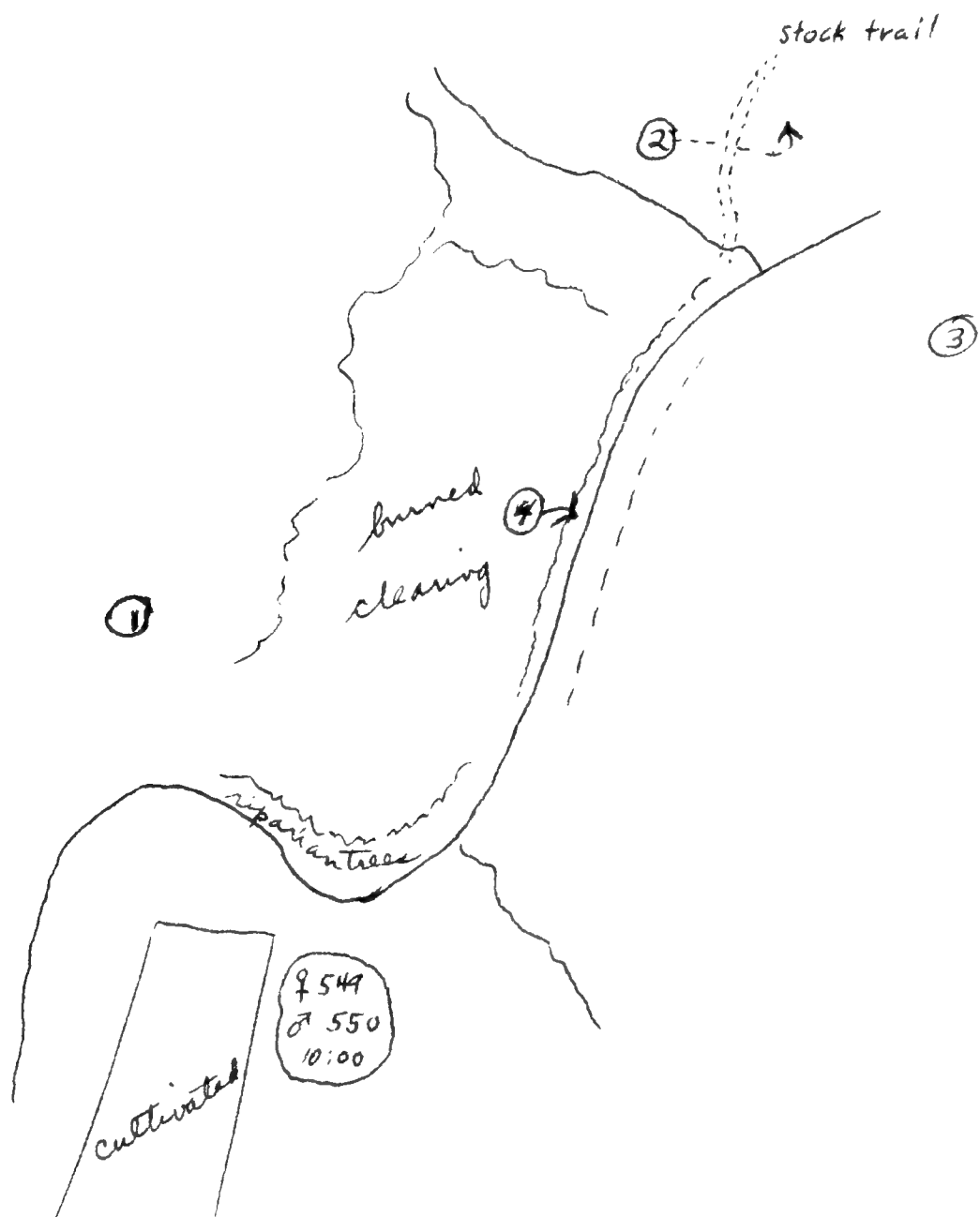
I traced a section of the aerial photo, contacting the above office and the County Surveyor, Mr. Kuykendall.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr 13 Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas



- ① ♂ 551 taken in Spanish oak woodland 9:30
- ② lone male 10:40-11:05 arrow shows where fired at, 11:30
- ③ area where song given in answer to ②
- ④ point near junipers where ♀ 552, ♂ 553 taken ± 11:50  
two other titmice believed to be in area - bird at ③  
sang simultaneously

♂ 551 may or may not have been the bird which sang at 8:47

I left area about 12:50 (ten minutes before, ~~to~~ mouse sang up stream ± 50 yards from where I saw 8:00 birds.)



KDixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 14 Sabine Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

Dead calm, sunny. At 6:45, half an hour after sunrise I drove along road and crossed the westernmost creek mapped. ♂ of western pair singing as was male on slope NE (N of white outcrop) and ♂ to E (the lone ♂ of yesterday probably). I watched the middle ♂ for 5 min. as he sang from uppermost vertical twig of an oak but saw no mate then. Songs *pet* - - and *tur* - - - (rapid)

7:15 ♂ on slope E plowed field singing *tur* - - - another in canyon to S and third on juniper-covered crown of that hill N of middle bird's position. I followed latter who flew to ridge E of ridge at 7:19. This bird neither called nor sang subsequently. I worked S hoping to hear him on the ♂ to the S but no activity detected by 7:40.

I worked N along the W base of that hill E of the plowed field moving up to the crest and down to the N base to within sight of the juniper clump where I took 549 & 550 yesterday. There at 7:55 a ♂ scolded & I followed it S. I lost it after 8:00 - at 8:05 exchange of song by two birds W creek and I thought song also by bird S of me - I started in that direction, then at 8:10 heard scold *vetet vetet vetet* or *redeck* - - from ♂ mouse which flew out of lone juniper <sup>(E N most juniper)</sup> at E edge of field. Bird moved NE, scolding; I did not follow but inspected juniper and found no trace of cavity. This bird did not participate in songfest. (When seen at 7:55 it had given *see siva dut dut* call)

WIND from S, 2 - 8 mph



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 14 Sabina Ranch, 5 mi N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas

At 8:20 along tributary S of plowed field Titmouse sang  
tur - - - - accompanied by mate - ♂ led up slope to Spanish  
oaks on E side of steep brook where Titmouse had disappeared at  
7:19 call dut dut - - - - from there over top  
after 8:25 (heard from slope to S, opposite)

I worked the bluff S of the tributary, stunted Spanish oaks,  
until 8:37 - no trace of a Titmouse. I came down to the brook and  
then upstream about 75 yards to where I heard Titmouse calls.  
Scolding birds were in oaks on S face on either side of a shallow  
recess chuk duk dut vehement on both sides. I tried to  
see the bird to W (I thought 1 there, 2 E) and that bird  
retreated to W - then E bird (neither scolding bird seen)  
started to sing peer - - I endeavored to follow W  
bird (silence except for that song at 8:42) I heard Titmouse  
25 yds W in brookside trees and saw courtship feeding  
twice within the minute after 8:45.

I started up <sup>to investigate upstream pair</sup> canyon and heard song & scold simultaneously  
from N slope opposite scene of squabble - then scold from  
W and a melee involving four birds in low oak brush  
with vehement scolds but no song. This at 8:49.

I proceeded downstream but heard no Titmouse on S side  
Song from up canyon at 8:55, then silence. The boundary  
dispute between those two pairs really occurred on the  
next hill E of ridge E of plowed field. Vegetation largely  
Spanish oak, the juniper where present cleared out  
for most part.

I started W toward main branch of creek at 9:02





Apr 14 Sabins Ranch,

However I heard song at W end of ridge S of that tributary so I followed it up entering the next canyon to S. At 9:06 cheh deh det det a scold repeated over & over from Spanish oaks at Y in canyon. At 9:08 a clear melodious tür tür --- 6 to 9 phrases per volley, amplified by narrowness of canyon no doubt. The singer took a conspicuous perch then I heard a sip as its mate flew down & across canyon — singer followed & continued song steadily until 9:15. 2 min later I was admonished for disturbing the pair as I watched thru patch of scrubby oak (post oak?) on flat between 2 tributaries.

9:25 bird upstream on westernmost tributary singing tür --- tür --- --- (peta --- from down canyon to W)  
Former moved upslope into junipers W and was still singing there at 9:30.

I pulled up gun & arched S end of field & worked up E side  
At 9:47 song from base of hill where I had followed bird at 7:55  
At 9:55 rapid tür tür tür ~~from~~ there and persistent song from along the creek, one near, other distant; (love bird & 8:00 pair of yesterday I believe). Same rapid tür --- --- from oak-juniper 25 yds SE upslope from where I took pair 549-550 yesterday - bird moved N at 10:03. It commenced to sing again at 10:07 and moved 20 yds E a minute later. As I moved N along the creek I could hear it sing from time to time.

I walked upstream in a leisurely fashion but heard no ~~Admice~~ until 10:25. The much shot - at ♂ of the tributary farthest N was singing then; bird to E sang alternately.



Apr. 14. Sabino Ranch,

I crossed the creek and worked across a flat and up a slope covered mostly with Spanish oaks and a few junipers. I located the bird singing the rapid ter - - - - ; occasionally a slower cadence more like peer peer peer. Bird sang intermittently as though stimulated by song upstream, across, and downstream. I followed along W unwilling to peg him as unmated. At 10:47 in dense juniper tree where he had been singing I heard a twitter & watched a bird forage now & then, mostly giving a soft sivout out. The other bird flew into the tree but seemed wary of me; both worked up in tree but he did not feed her, singing once in answer to ♂ down slope to S & W. I left & noted their location as compass SE of mouth of tributary. That bird continued to sing rather steadily.

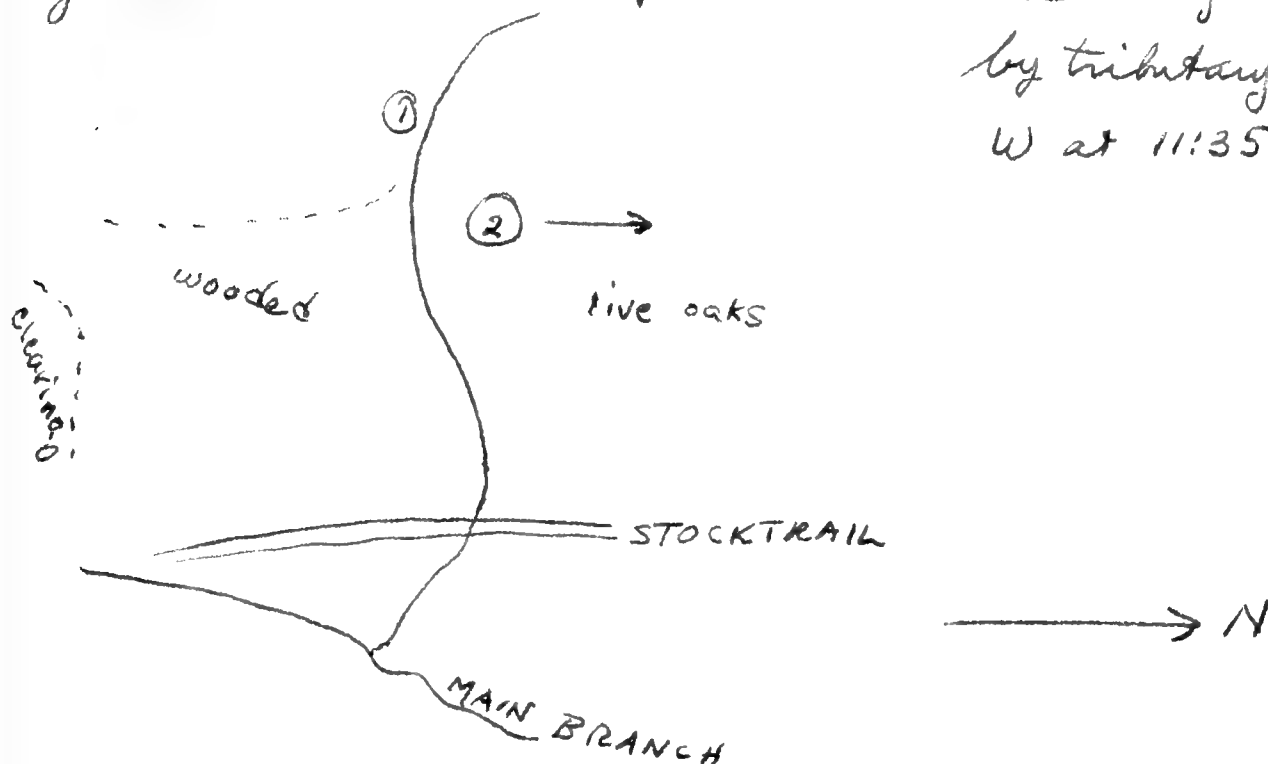
I worked across the creek & back to the territory S of the one discussed above. The singing ♂ mouse worked S along a bench above the "floodplain", juniper-covered and crossed the first brook S. He sang there rather steadily from 11:10 - 11:15 answered chiefly by the bird to the S (one not investigated previously I judged). This bird sang for 5 minutes more as I chased a lizard. His song was peer - - most of the time.

At 11:25 I approached the tributary to the N where I had shot a lone bird yesterday at this time. A ♂ mouse was singing in oak-juniper patch between tributary and the burned clearing WIND STRONG FROM SOUTH  
I started along S bank of tributary and heard a ♂ mouse N of this brook perhaps 40 yards upstream from



Apr 14.

stocktrail crossing. There was an alternation of calls by two birds each calling see sa out out, not especially agitated. The bird in position ① was along steep bank cut by tributary here & moved W at 11:35.



The other bird moved N & was very wary, probably the bird shot at yesterday. I left at ~~11:40~~ 11:40, walking S along the <sup>W</sup> edge of the burned clearing & crossing over E to juniper where pair taken yesterday. I went downstream to the bend and then up the bank & followed a singing bird at the point where a ♂ had been at 10:00 today. This ~~tomorrow~~ sang very softly tur tur tur (not rapid). He became aware of me & flew NW into oaks near edge of plowed field. I followed up and he flew across the creek scolding see out out out - - all the while. He resumed song momentarily & was answered by a bird upstream. I shot at him but the distance was too great & he merely shifted perch called tsip see see see (fear call) & disappeared. I paced off the distance from N end of plowed field to creek ~~at~~ to S of the S end along E fence





- ① pair, 8:30 Apr 13; ♂ sang 6:45, Apr 14.
- ② ♂ singing, 6:50, 9:25, 12:20, Apr. 14
- ③ ♂ singing 8:15, Apr. 13 } heard on
- ④ pair, 8:00, Apr. 13 } Apr. 14
- ⑤ ♂ singing, 8:47, Apr. 13 } possibly same individual
- ⑥ ♂ 551 taken 9:30, Apr. 13 }
- ⑦ ♀ 549, ♂ 550 taken 10:00, Apr. 13
- ⑧ ♂, 7:55, 9:55, 12:00, Apr. 14
- ⑨ ♂, 7:15; pair, 8:20, 8:45, Apr. 14
- ⑩ pair, 8:49, Apr. 14
- ⑪ pair, 9:10, Apr. 14
- ⑫ ♀ 552, ♂ 553 taken 11:55, Apr. 13
- ⑬ pair flew E to creek at 11:07, Apr. 13; bird which scolded when pair taken at ⑫ flew west from creek to point ⑫ 11:55, Apr. 13. Position NE at 11:25, Apr. 14 may have been this pair.
- ⑭ Lone ♂ shot at about 11:40, Apr. 13; heard singing 10:25, 11:25, Apr. 14.
- ⑮ Area where individual exchanged calls with bird at ⑭ prior to 11:35, Apr. 14 - (pair located there??)
- ⑯ Pair seen 10:47, Apr. 14
- ⑰ Persistently singing ♂ 11:10 - 11:20, Apr. 14 (mated??)
- ⑱ Approximate position from which song heard answering ⑰

Conclusion: 9 known pairs

5 probable bachelors (2, 3, 6, 8, 14)

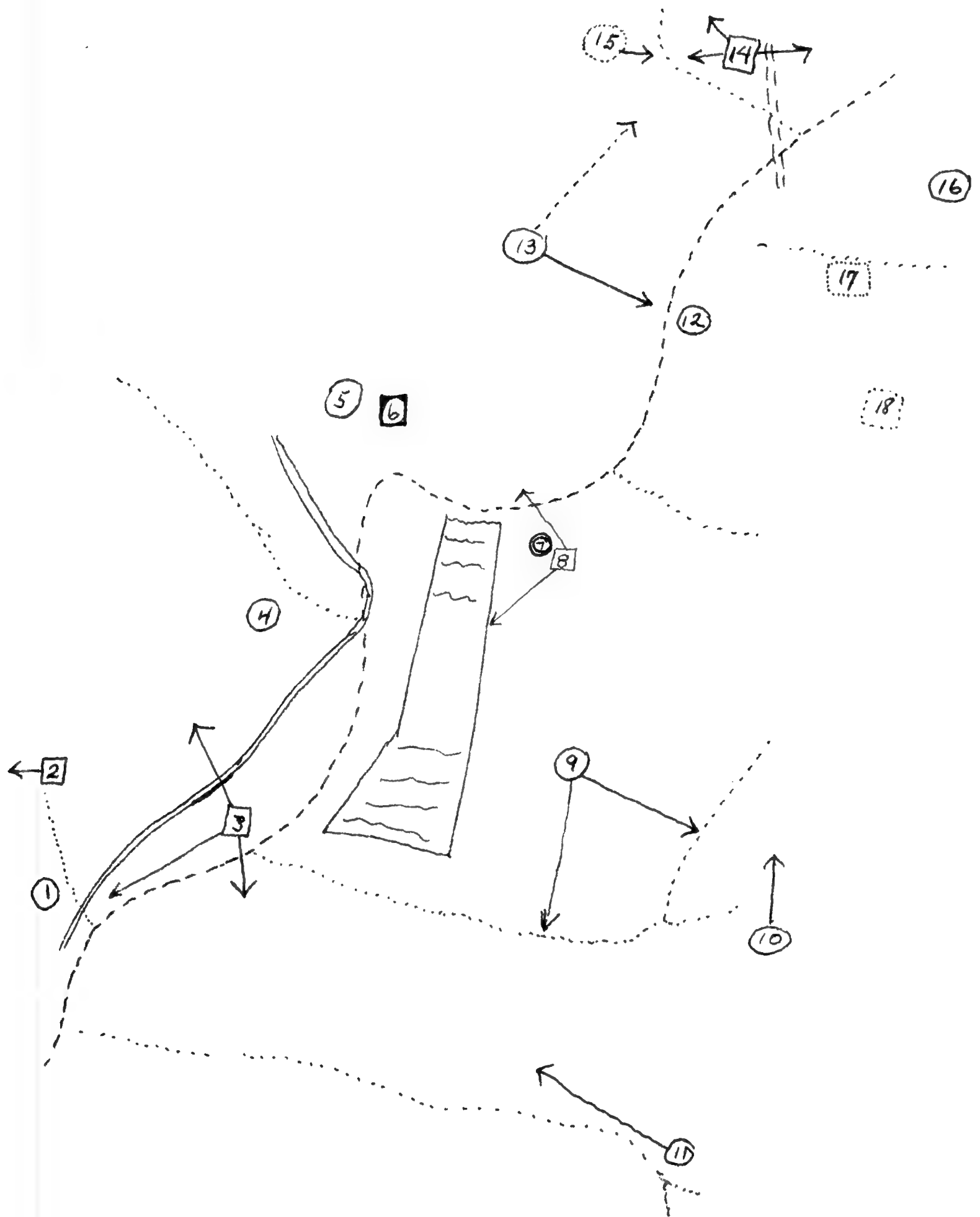
4 unknowns (5 [probably = 6], 15, 17, 18)



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 14 Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas





K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 14. Sabins Ranch, 5 mi. N Kerrville, Kerr Co., Texas  
this distance = 476 yards.

At 12:20 ~~Am~~ mouse singing steadily on slope w the  
westernmost tributary where lone ♂ had gone at 9:25. No  
other ~~Am~~ mouse song thereabouts.

Shoreline after 247



K Dixon

1951

Parus

Apr. 15. Onion Creek 2 mi. S Delvalle, Travis Co., Texas

Gray overcast, calm. I reached this area (visited briefly with Edward Kincaid Apr. 8) at 8:45 a.m. There was a bend here where the stream had cut a high bank. Tall willows, cottonwoods, and other deciduous trees grew along the banks. At 9:05 I succeeded in getting a glimpse of a Titmouse I had heard singing. The bird foraged in willow & did not sing while I watched it (hence I'm not sure it was a ♂). Its crest was black & forehead white. It sang peety — — before I approached the area and peeta — — later.

I worked upstream to point where log lies across the creek where we saw a similar bird last Sunday. No Titmouse activity 9:05 - 9:25 — I was unable to see the Titmouse downstream by 9:43 so I drove E. I noted Titmice in elms along the road near the intersection 10:00 - 10:10.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 17 Barton Creek, 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Partial overcast obscured sun; calm. Titmouse called see see sa vet vet vet from near buildings at edge of hill (territory where I had watched pair previously). I was impressed with the nasal quality and sharpness of this call.

I walked N along the base of the hill to the vicinity of stake #41 (the only Titmice heard were at the base of the hill N of the path I descended). In this area which lay to the east of the draw where I had seen the pair in Territory N a pair taken Apr 8 (538, 539), I followed an individual ♂ for half an hour. I found him very wary as he sang in answer to ♂ NE. However this bird sang steadily as an unmated ♂ often will. I finally took a shot at him but apparently the distance was too great for a half load. I think he may have been the mate of the ♀ 537 taken Apr 8.

From 8:00 - 10:00 I hunted in areas farther N with no success. I wounded 2 ♂♂ which escaped and found others difficult to stalk. This area seemed to have more live oaks than those I had worked in previously; perhaps because they were on higher ground of different drainage properties.

At 10:00 I worked down the draw to where I had seen the pair N of 538-539's Territory on Apr 8 but I did not hear any Titmice in this area. I worked N again along the trail where I had wounded the first ♂ and encountered a pair of Titmice in a grassy clearing





Apr. 17 Barton Creek

at 10:25. One bird scolded me from the NE corner of this clearing, then flew SW into elm-Spanish oak grove. The underbrush was thick and I was unable to stalk the pair successfully. I saw the ♂ foraging, then flying to where the ♀ chattered and I assumed that this was feeding of the ♀ during an inattentive period. I was reminded by this case that I have not heard a ♂ of a pair sing during such ~~inattentive~~ periods in contrast to the song of ♂ P. inornatus, which I interpreted as an attempt to direct the ♀ back to her incubation duties.

I walked across through brush & woods a few yards to the rocky dry streambed. Subsequently on the opposite side I heard song of a bird which appeared to be alone. It sang for several minutes from oaks on the E bank, then flew W to willows(?) on W bank. It moved inland 30 or 40 yds and I wasn't able to stalk it. Bird flew back E presently & then exchanged song with ♂ farther W (♂ of pair I had seen at 10:25 - ?)

After 11:30 I worked downstream to the bend where the creek flows E (point where path from top of hill reaches creek). I heard brief periods of song from both sides of the creek but wasn't able to track down the singers.

At 12:10 ♂ sang from point indicated on chart



then moved E among junipers along path indicated by double line. At 12:20 Two pairs were



K Dixon  
1957

Tarus

Apr. 17 Barton Cr., 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
involved in a vocal exchange. The ♂ of the E pair  
was in plain view and I could hear his mate in brush W  
his perch. I took him (#564); she called from farther  
W then walked E, calling see out out & I was unable  
to locate her. The other pair retired to W across  
the stream & quieted down. I walked up the hill and  
heard Titmouse song at old house and answer to SW  
at 12:35,



Apr. 24. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE <sup>Skidmore</sup> ~~Beville~~, Bee Co., Texas - overcast, calm. At 5:45 a.m. ~~At~~ <sup>at</sup> mouse singing along river S of Corrigan home - peta - - and Terry - -. Sang intermittently during the next hour.

Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

6:55 - ~~At~~ <sup>mouse</sup> singing rapid Tur - - - - NE of where #514 <sup>March 30.</sup> taken on 1. I approached him cautiously and found him singing from conspicuous perch in top of an oak tree. I took this bird (#594) at 7:12. He had been singing Tur - - and peta - - and was answered by a bird to the W. I followed the latter & found him in post oak near where 514 taken (N of fence). The bird flew to a mesquite & resumed singing tee-ur tee-ur; when I moved toward him he scolded vet - - - and flew SW to live oak where I could not see him & kept up this call for fully 6 minutes. I moved E & took a Lark Sparrow; he moved downstream. I stalked him again after 7:40 but he moved to live oak on W bank & I left him there singing.

WIND FROM SE after 8:00, to 10 mph.

I crossed the N tributary and wandered among oaks, reaching the Windmill nest at 8:44 - no activity by 9:00 so I walked toward <sup>tributary</sup> ~~oaks~~ and S along E bank. I reached the gully running in from the E ~~at~~ at 9:07 and then heard song peta - - but was not sure of the direction.

I walked S toward the large live oak where I had seen lone ♂ on several occasions, arriving at 9:25. I was within the area over which he ranged (see March 31, 8:40 a.m.; Apr 4, 8:45 a.m.) for 20 minutes and did not hear any song.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Apr. 24 Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, 175 ft., Bee Co., Texas

I walked N to windmill and worked about in post oak "savanna" there. I heard no ~~voices~~ except a burst of song at 10:07. The wind was so strong that I couldn't determine direction so I departed at that time.

I did not hear the ♂ along the <sup>Aransas</sup> River S of house singing at any time during the day.

Apr. 25 Cloudy with wind from SE; a few raindrops now and then.

At 7:20, Atmouse sang peer - - - (8's or 9's) from oak on E bank of tributary 100 yds N road (NW windmill nest)

Answer from S of road Bird to N sang rather steadily for next 8 min.; southern bird infrequently. I did not see former nor did I hear other voice with him.

At 7:30 (he?) sang from W bank or if that was another Atmouse, he did not answer. Nothing further here by

7:35

No activity S of road until I heard song to S while standing at the gully - I followed up and located two ♂♂, one NW of other in blackjack, other 75 yds NE of where I had seen "big live oak" ♂ (bird not found yesterday).

7:58 both in same trees exchanging song kidick of NW, ridick (in 5's) by bird NE of me. Silent by 8:00, then song resumed by bird farther W while E bird retained his post - I stalked him and he stopped singing and gave infrequent notes teit and started to move SE in scrubby liveoaks. I took him (#596). This bird probably is the lone ♂ seen to SE, Mch 31 and April 4





## Parus

Apr. 25. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

I walked N, reaching windmill nest at 5:20. I circled thru area to N & back to creek at 8:45 - no calls. I climbed tree and looked down into vertically - opening cavity but could see nothing inside. Reddish brown fecal castings, possibly of riccoon rested in notch a few inches from opening.

After 7:00 am I walked N along W bank of tributary running N-S. I listened no ~~to~~ once across in half an hour there.

9:37 - 1:45 - no calls nor song from along creek in former territory of the cat #514. Showers intermittent.

Apr. 27. Overcast; breeze from SE scarcely noticeable although there were strong gusts occasionally. I listened along the creek for 3 or 4 minutes after 8:00 but heard no song where #514 had his territory. I walked to the windmill nest at 8:25 climbed the tree and found that I could see no more details with a flashlight than without. I circled through the post-oaks near the windmill and worked both banks of the tributary from gully to S beyond deep gully to N of road. I remained in area until 9:15 and heard no ~~to~~ mice. I am certain that if there had been a family party in the area, I would have located it under those conditions.



K Dixon  
1951

Parus

Apr 26. 2 mi. SE Mission Valley, Victoria Co., Texas - I reached this area about 10:00, crossing the Guadalupe at Victoria & going west  $\pm 1\frac{1}{2}$  mi., then driving NW for 11 miles or so and turning left on Farm Rd. 1510. The area was a <sup>savanna of</sup> scattered post oak trees in a pasture. I was turning the car around and heard a song Tur — — ; I located the singer in a dead tree  $\pm 14$  ft high beside the road. In his beak was a dangling food object. He continued singing and I waited a few seconds. His mate flew onto a perch on this snag and I took her (#604). The  $\sigma$  was silent for a moment, then resumed singing. I fired with a .38 and missed. He flew to a telephone pole 25 yds E then returned. I had reloaded & took him then.

I drove back to the highway and into the settlement of Mission Valley. From there I drove NE on a dirt road through woodland of mixed character; in some places <sup>were</sup> groves of pure live oak, whereas elsewhere post oak & black jack were mixed in. I stopped in one such place and heard a pair in oaks near the road. One called a great deal (not recorded at time) and other gave only sip notes. I took the noisy bird (#602,  $\sigma$ ) and waited to see mate in adjacent live oak. Latter gave tit a time or two, then flew to another tree where I took her (#603).

Along a creek with live oaks & elms I heard a  $\sigma$  at 11:00 but he kept on the go. WIND STRONG from South. Along Guadalupe River 2 mi SW Nursery I heard no birds near bridge.



Apr. 28. 11 mi. NWourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas. I reached this area, the Eisenhower Ranch, by driving NW out ofourdanton on Texas hwy 173 for 9.8 miles after its junction with hwy 346 N ofourdanton, then turning left (=W) for one mile. The "primitive cover" appears to be mesquite with tall "blackbrush" ( ) and lower shrubs including Acacia (catclaw, in bloom) and prickly pear.

I started hunting at 8:45 in a coral area near a windmill -- there were mesquite trees but no undershrubs. Two ~~titmice~~ flew from bushes to W into a mesquite S of windmill; one was calling in answer apparently to song of a bird a few yards E of windmill. This bird flew E and called from a conspicuous perch with crest erect; his mate followed with tsip notes in flight. I shot her in mesquite E of fence (#612). Then the other bird disappeared but I saw a ~~titmouse~~ in shrubs from which pair had flown first. I took him (#613) mated pair ?? -- see comments for #616 below.

I worked S and came to a brook course (dry). I heard tsip notes and then song tur tur tur ---. Thinking it was a ♂ alone I shot at him but bird flew simultaneously. I followed ♂ and its mate upstream in elm & mesquite but they kept a safe distance, calling veh veh vet and similar nasal calls perhaps equally well described as "ek ek" or "enk enk". I abandoned the pursuit at 9:25.

A ~~titmouse~~ farther S sang peta -- but the brush was too dense to stalk him. I moved SE and located another pair in mesquites; I shot at the ♂ who was



Apr. 28. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton

only stunned and flew on — his mate was wary and I abandoned this search about 10:00.

CLOUDY, WIND FROM S averaged  $\pm 10$  mph

I worked S and came to a creek with elms on its banks. Here I startled a ~~titmouse~~ which flew upstream with scolding notes. I located it foraging in a scrubby elm and took it (#610). I walked a few yards farther S and took a bird which gave a call vet vet vet as though annoyed (#611). Hearing no other birds, I started back toward my car at 10:40. Walking along the creekbed, I heard a ~~titmouse~~ first call vet vet, then, probably as I drew nearer, it called see see — — — seh deh veh vet veh-vet — — — veh-vet and moved away from the stream. One bird seemed to be foraging alone; then another joined it from the creek to W. I followed them cautiously and took one (♀, 614) with a long shot. Her mate gave location notes from mesquites to W, then worked E & S into clump of shrubs among mesquite trees. It gave location notes frequently but neither louder calls nor song. I took it (#615) at 11:15. (foraging on smaller twigs of mesquite).

Working back N to the windmill, I heard a song from a bird I had heard earlier to W of area in which I took 612, 613. Also call from trees in which I took 612. Bird from latter area flew W to shrubs from which other pair came into my view first at 8:50. I hit him with a .38 & he flew 15 ft to another shrub. Then I fired with a .22 and bird flew rapidly SW then





R Dixon  
1941

Parus atricristatus

Apr. 28 11 mi. NWourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas

rose upward and did a back arch plunging to the ground.



This bird was a ♂ (#616). I think that he was the bird singing in area E of windmill when I took 613 and

that the latter is the mate of 612.

I left at 11:35; WIND STILL BLOWING



K Dixon  
1951

Parus atricristatus

30  
Apr. ~~26~~

1 mi. NW Ft. Davis, 5000 ft., Jeff Davis Co., Texas. I slept out on the S side of Limpia Canyon in an unfenced area outside the Davis Mts. State Park. The rather steep and rocky slope above me to the S was grass-covered with scattered oak trees and a few junipers. There were 2 species of liveoak of which my #456 (Q. ) was more common (flowering at this time); less common were gray oak and Spanish(?) oak. Along the stream were tall cottonwoods, small willows and [WALNUT] (#458). A species of Prunus (chokecherry) grew as a tree ~~at~~ the base of the slope. Catclaw, still leafless, was the common shrub.

Central S.T.

I awoke at 6:00 am, perhaps late for the dawn chorus. It was not until 6:35 that I heard a Titmouse singing upslope, a slow deliberate peer peer peer. There was an answering song from W on that slope. About 6:45 I heard a similar song from a Titmouse in a large [WALNUT]<sup>458</sup> tree S of the road. As I approached, he flew N across the streambed and sang from oaks there. He changed to a song which I recorded as

picurur or pea-crur-ur, a three-syllabled variant of the "peter" song. Both types of song sounded a bit faint as though from a tired bird which had been singing from dawn until noon. The songs were not loud, clear, ringing. This bird was wary and would not permit an approach so I abandoned chase at 7:10. I walked upslope where the song had originated at 6:35 but was stopped by a fence.

A hundred yards or two down the road I walked up an oak-dotted slope but heard no birds 7:40-8:10. I drove still further and heard song from oaks upslope (bird I) and from the cottonwoods along the stream (bird II).



Apr. 30. 1 mi. NW Ft. Davis

Both songs were of the deliberate, spaced peer peer peer type (or pee-ur), seldom more than 3 phrases per song. The bird upslope moved W and I followed bird II in riparian timber. The latter was quiet as I walked slowly under the tall cottonwoods. About 9:00 as I was nearer the road among small willows beside the stream I heard song pea-curr-ur, rather rattling in quality, from oak S of road. The bird then gave vet vet vet notes, flew across road NW and then worked downstream, followed by mate. I could not locate them until about 9:15 when I heard same song from same oak. I saw the bird, foraging now, suspended from terminal twig & I fired; he flew to another perch & I missed another long shot. I saw the bird (II) flying upslope.

About 9:35 I walked down the road with gun unloaded. I left gun at the car & walked N across road to collect a plant. Two titmice flew across road to N and I returned for gun. I saw "courtship" feeding of ♀ by ♂ hanging upside down from twig but I could not load gun in time to take them. This was second feeding and ♀ was not noisy. The birds flew close to stream & were hidden in willowy shrubs (thicket) similar to Baccharis viminea of southern Calif. One called sip and flew into cottonwood; as I walked toward it, it called

"see see see re-deck re-deck red-deck" and I could see whitish material (disk flowers) in beak. Mate followed into cottonwood, then ♀ led way across road into lone live oak, or following. Then both flew into



Apr 30 1 mi NW Ft. Davis

Dead tree further upslope, then upward again. Shortly afterward I heard song peer peer peer. I waited for about 10 minutes, then looked in liveoak but saw no cavity which appeared usable. I worked back downslope and remained in area until 10:25, pressing plants, but heard no further calls nor song.

BREEZE FROM WEST AFTER 9:00, became strong wind after 10:00





K Dixon  
1951

Vireo griseus

Mar 6. resaca 1/2 mi. SW Almito, Cameron Co., Texas

High fog overcast; calm. I worked along a band of timber to SW of the resaca 9:40 - 10:10 am. The timber itself consisted of ebony trees 20'± high, closely spaced and of sapling-like proportions. Other tree species collected elsewhere (#401, #403) also noted. Along the SW margin of this wooded strip and bordering a partial clearing of smaller brush and cactus with mesquite scattered through I noted 3 white-eyed Vireos. They were shared along an estimated 250 yards of "edge". The individuality of their songs seemed to be consistent; I recorded them as:

"chuckle-y-erty" rather liquid - singer  
definitely identified

"jib-whittier-tick"

"tick-buzzer-ee-her"

On the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge 7 mi S Alamo Hidalgo.

I had recorded two songs previously:

"whip-chey-a-byur-tit"

"whick-fuzzy-she-bear"

Mar 31. Aransas River, 5 1/2 mi. ENE Skidmore, Bee Co., Texas

The white-eyed Vireo is a common bird in dense woodland along the river and in uncut mesquite in the uplands. Males sing well into mid-day. Their preference seems to be for dense growth - including blackbrush (KLD #417) thickets beneath large liveoak trees.



*Cassidix mexicanus*

March 6 Harlingen, Cameron Co., Texas. Overcast, calm.

♂ grackle flew to top of telephone pole calling a hoarse kek kek as he alighted. Bird repeated a display from that perch - he leaned forward slightly, ruffled body feathers and made a ~~ruffling~~ ruffling noise apparently by brushing wing tips together. At the close of this display he sometimes made a noise "kee ee" (a high pitched whistle). I saw a similar action directed toward another male (both birds on the ground) yesterday morning.



Richmondia cardinalis

April 4. Spring Creek, 6 1/2 mi ENE Skidmore, 175 ft., Bee Co., Texas

Just before 8:00 am in postoak woodland I saw a ♀ plumaged Cardinal singing a song jib which-or which-or — — — — — which-or (I actually saw bill movement) ♂ plumaged bird nearby had been singing but I did not see antagonism toward ♀-pl. bird. latter way & I couldn't collect it — possibly more red in wing than normal ♀.

10:00 am WINDY — oxbow in creek downstream — dense scrubby growth of mesquite and other deciduous trees 2 Cardinals singing — one seemed to be alone — song "cure (pause) cure — — — — —" other sang

"chip portugee portugee — — — portugee gee"

I wasn't able to get a count but am left with a definite impression of an excess of ♂♂ Cardinals in this entire area.



Pipilo fuscus

Apr 30. 1 mi. NW Ft. Davis, 5000 ft., Jeff Davis Co., Texas

N-facing slope of Limpia Canyon - slope grass-covered and dotted or completely covered with boulders. Scattered trees were live oak, gray oak, Emory oak, Spanish oak, juniper. Catclaw scattered. Spotted Towhee present but less abundant than Brown Towhee. I took one silent Brown Towhee (#617) foraging among rocks. I heard a note which I transcribed as wimp or wilp, plaintive in quality and similar to a call note of the Song Sparrow. (I have not heard such a note from coastal P. fuscus)

As I was listening for ~~twice~~ mice in the tall cottonwoods I watched a pair of Brown Toweels about 9:00 a.m. One carried several dried grass stems perhaps 4 or 5 in. long; the other merely accompanied the first. I watched their route and noted the grass-carrying individual fly to a notch then disappear behind a trunk. I walked around this tree and flushed the bird; it was building a nearly completed nest seated in vertical splinters left when a main trunk of a cottonwood had broken off. These splinters were a foot or more in length and afforded anchoring for the nest. The nest was shaded and sheltered by a nearby trunk.





3.  
Dixon, K. L.

Local and miscellaneous

Jan. 27 - Nov. 4, 1951

Catalog nos. 619-646

Journal

Species accounts



K Dixon  
1951

## Catalogue

### Berkeley, Alameda Co., Calif.

Sept. 11

skel  
619 0? <sup>imm. sk.</sup> Wilsonia pusilla very fat ♂ plumage (brought in by W. F. Harrison)

1/2 mi. SE Davis, Yolo Co., Calif.

Sept. 16

620 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 4 mm. Dendrocopos nuttallii slight fat wt. 36.7 gms

### Nelson, Butte Co., Calif.

Sept. 4 (prep. Sept. 26)

621 ♂ <sup>sk.</sup> imm. Molothrus ater (coll. by John Cowan) Testis 1 mm. wt. 42.5 gm.

Oct 15

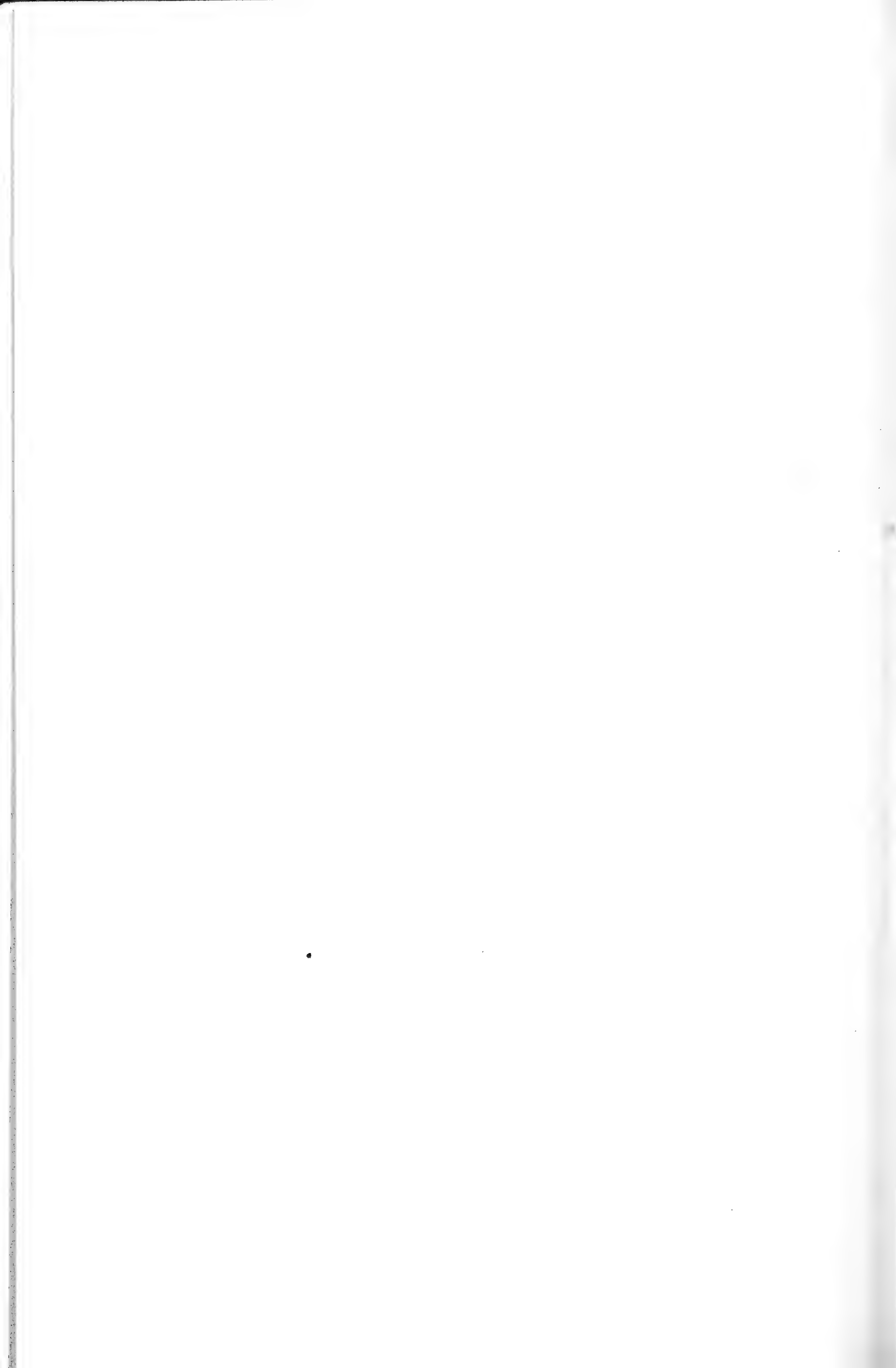
### Berkeley, Alameda Co., Calif.

skel  
622 ♂ <sup>imm. sk.</sup> Zonotrichia coronata (brought in by Mrs. W. H. Hammond) not fat wt. 31.4 gm.

Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. Baccharis - Rhus

Oct 16

623 ♂ <sup>im sk.</sup> Chamaea fasciata



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1951

Catalogue

[Gray Rocks]  
~~Brock Mts.~~ 21 mi. NE Redding 2500 ft., Shasta Co., Calif.

November 2

Testis 1 mm.

624 ♂ ad sk. Sitta carolinensis

wt. 17.9 gm.

625 ♂ ad sk. Certhia familiaris

Testis minute

wt. 7.6 gm

626 ♀ no emb Peromyscus

(coll. by J. Gorman)

211-110-23-19

wt. 34.3 gm

627 ♀ Dendrocopos villosus

wt. 60.1 gm.

628 ♀ ovary 9x6 mm Oreortyx picta

wt. 239.2 gm

629 ♀ " "

wt. 242.0 gm.

Park Cr., 6 3/4 mi W Weed, 4300 ft., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

November 3

630 ♀ imm sk Certhia familiaris

wt. 7.6 gm

631 ♂ ad sk Regulus satrapa

wt 6.3 gm

632 ♀ ovary 5mm Sphyrapicus thyroideus

wt. 58.9 gm

Little Bogus Cr., 4 mi. NE Ager, 2600 ft., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

November 4

633 Rana boylei

634 " "

635 " "

636 ♂ ad sk Parus inornatus

slight fat

wt. 17.1 gm.

637 ♀? ad sk " "

slight fat

Coll. by R. A. Norris

wt. 16.5 gm.

638 ♂? ad sk " "

slight fat

coll by R. A. Norris

wt. 15.6 gm

639 ♂ imm sk Thryomanes bewickii

wt. 10.7 gm

640 ♀ ad sk Pipilo fuscus

ovary 5mm

wt. 62.2 gm

641 ♂ ad sk Myadestes townsendi

coll by J. Gorman

wt. 38.7 gm

642 ♀ ad sk Aphelocoma

ovary 4x8 mm

84.3 gm.

643 ♀ imm sk "

ovary 7x4 mm

98.1 gm

(skull windows anterior, 1 cm. in diameter)



M Dixon  
1951

Stinson Beach, Marin Co., Calif.

pick-up Nov. 6

skel

644

♀

Uria aalge

pick up by H. Cogswell

skel

645

♀

" "

"

"

R.I. Bowman

1 mi E Orville, Butte Co., Calif.

Nov. 24

skel

646

♀

Guinea fowl <sup>found.</sup> (decapitated on road)





*Journal*



K. Dixon  
1951

Journal

1.

Jan. 27 En route from Davis, Yolo Co., Calif. to Sierra foothills.

Martha & I drove out of Sacramento about 9:00 continuing on state hwy. 16 to Plymouth. Overcast, <sup>calm</sup>, but condensation of moisture on windshield continuous. (wipers used until we were near Plymouth).

Plymouth, Amador Co., Calif. Noted two Mockingbirds in yard in town about 11:00 am. Plain Titmouse heard in digger pine country, <sup>continually</sup> as we drove to Jackson and then to San Andreas.

Mountain Ranch, Calaveras Co., Calif. — <sup>sunny,</sup> clear — slope with yellow pine, live oak, Kellogg(?) oak — Birds present: Steller Jay, Calif. Quail, Hairy, Nuttall (?) and Acorn-storing woodpeckers, Plain Titmouse, Red-br. Nuthatch, Varied Thrush.

5 mi Mountain Ranch, Calaveras Co., Calif. brushy live oak in yellow pine: Scrub Jay, Balanosphyra, Plain Titmouse, Ruby cr-Kinglet, Wren-tit (1 pr)

San Antonio Cr., 2000 ft., 3/4 mi. SE Sheep Ranch, Calaveras Co., Calif. Lower edge of yellow pine belt with digger pine and green-leaved oak (Q. chrysolepis) present. I noted Triturus crossing road a few feet above the creek and collected same. 3:30 pm

Murphy's, Calaveras Co., Calif. <sup>in town</sup> heard Hyla craueri On road below town at 2000 ft sign, heard Plain Titmouse call.

4 mi. W Angel's Camp, 1300 ft., Calaveras Co., Calif.

Took Balanosphyra (#468), one of several in oak-digger pine of pasture land.



May 15 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. SUNNY; CALM

8:30 - 10:00 - I heard the following birds singing along the creek in area from pool up to Botanic Garden: Hutton Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Tolmie, Mange-cit and Pied-billed Warblers, Black-hd. Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Green-bkd Goldfinch, Purple Finch.

Swainson Thrush calling, not singing.

May 19. Cedar Waxwing flocks in Botanic Garden oaks.

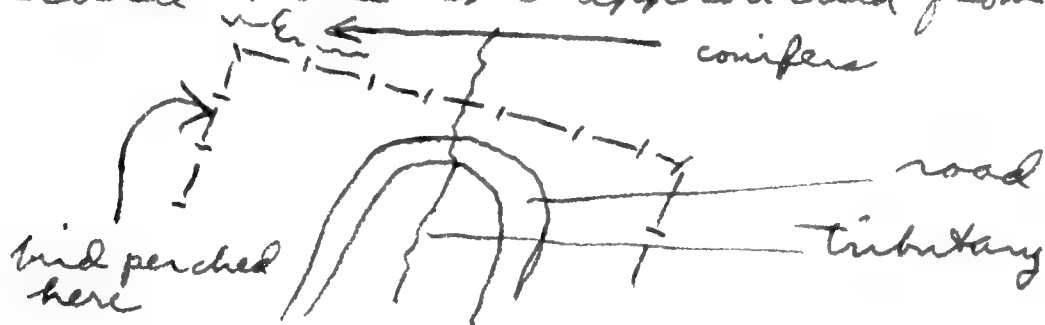
May 21. 9:40 FOGGY, CALM. Green Heron at edge of pool in Strawberry Canyon. I was on Canyon Rd (to S) and as I moved close to fence for a better look it flew down - canyon.

May 30. Davis, Yolo Co., Calif. WARM, SUNNY DAY; strong N wind.

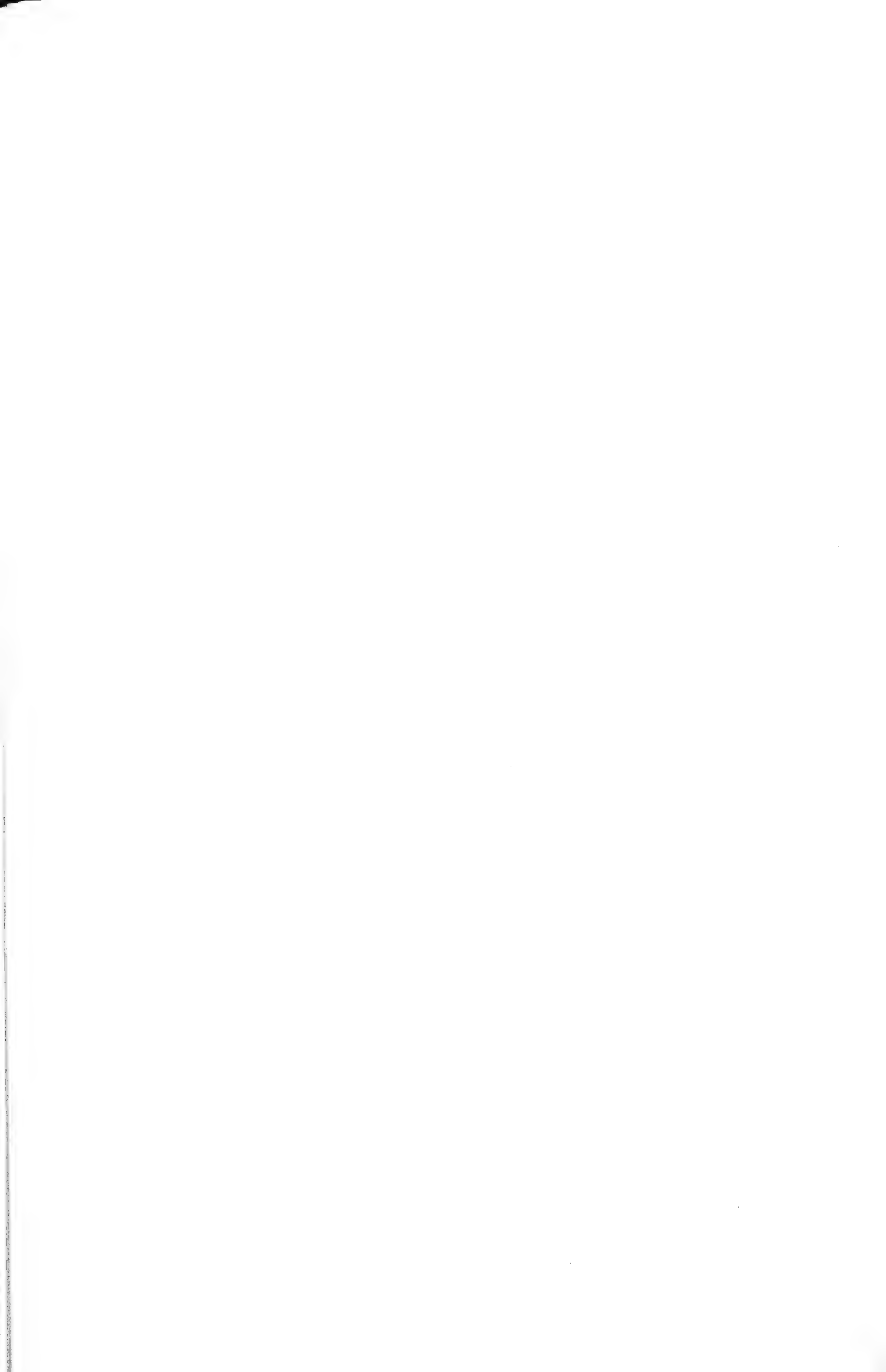
Cedar Waxwing - several in tall deciduous trees in residential part of town.

June 5 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. - OVERCAST, CALM.

Several times during the morning (9:00 - 11:30) I saw a Wood Pewee on the Botanic Garden fence west of the E tributary of Strawberry Creek which drains the Garden. The bird gave its weak pee-ah call and flew back to conifers immediately N of fence. I believe that I scared it once as I approached from E.



June 17. 5 mi. S Dixon, Solano Co., Calif. - ♂ yellow-headed Blackbird perched on fence beside roadside ditch - other Blackbirds present included at least one Redwing. seen as I drove past at 2:30 pm.



K Dixon  
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# Journal

June 18. 5 mi. SW Davis<sup>Yolo Co.,</sup> ~~IN~~ Solano Co., Calif. - 8:30 a.m. - Brewer Blackbird noted pursuing ♂-plumaged Marsh Hawk over grainfield.

July 7. Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. - Sunny; light breeze from W. Martha & I were in lower part of Canyon (Poultry lab to Botanic Garden) 9:05 - 10:25. See acc't for Parm. inornatus. Four Ground Squirrels noted in area at junction of paved road & dirt road on N bank of creek. They were in weedy growth, 3 on S side & one N of road.

Birds singing included:

Wren-tit

Purple Finch

Swainson Thrush

American Goldfinch

Hutton Vireo

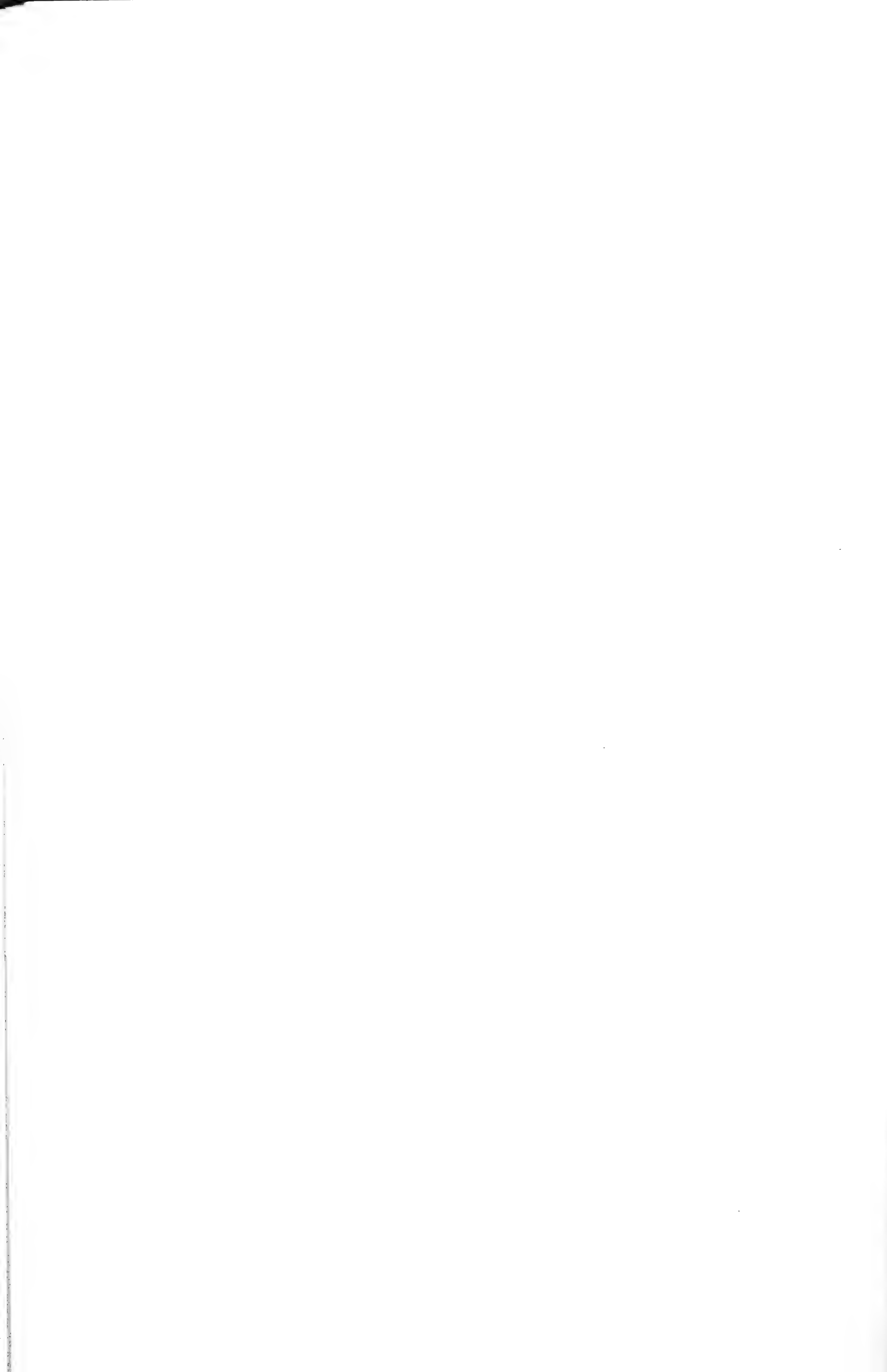
Song Sparrow

Warbling Vireo

House Finch

Sept. 14 Drake's Beach, Marin Co., Calif. I accompanied Bob Rudd to this locality on the Pt. Reyes Peninsula west of the entrance to Drake's Estero. Beach sand has closed the outlet of a small watershed area forming a small freshwater lagoon surrounded by marshy vegetation. The surrounding hills are grass-covered and are grazed to a moderate extent by cattle. Some of the steeper slopes bear brush patches but the crests are bald (i.e. grassy).

Outward from the Scirpus ( $\pm$  8 ft tall) were round-stemmed rushes perhaps a foot high (? bull rush reproduction?) not in clumps. On drier ground were clumps of Juncus and grasses.





K Dixon  
1951

# Journal

Sept. 13 Drake's Beach, Marin Co., Calif. Birds noted 4:30 - 7:00 p.m.:

Double-crested Cormorant

? Swallow

Blue Heron

Marsh Wren

Coot (heard)

Amer. Goldfinch

Virginia Rail

White-crowned Sparrow

Wilson Snipe

Song Sparrow

Caspian Tern

Western Gull

I set out 11 traps in dry swale, mostly in clumps of Juncus (live traps) [at 11:00 pm., 1 Sorex in 11 traps]

39 live traps in Scirpus, Juncus, grass close to edge of marsh. [11:00 pm., 7 Peromyscus]

Sept 14 - In 11 traps in swale, 1 Microtus

at 7:00 am. In other 39 traps, 4 Peromyscus.

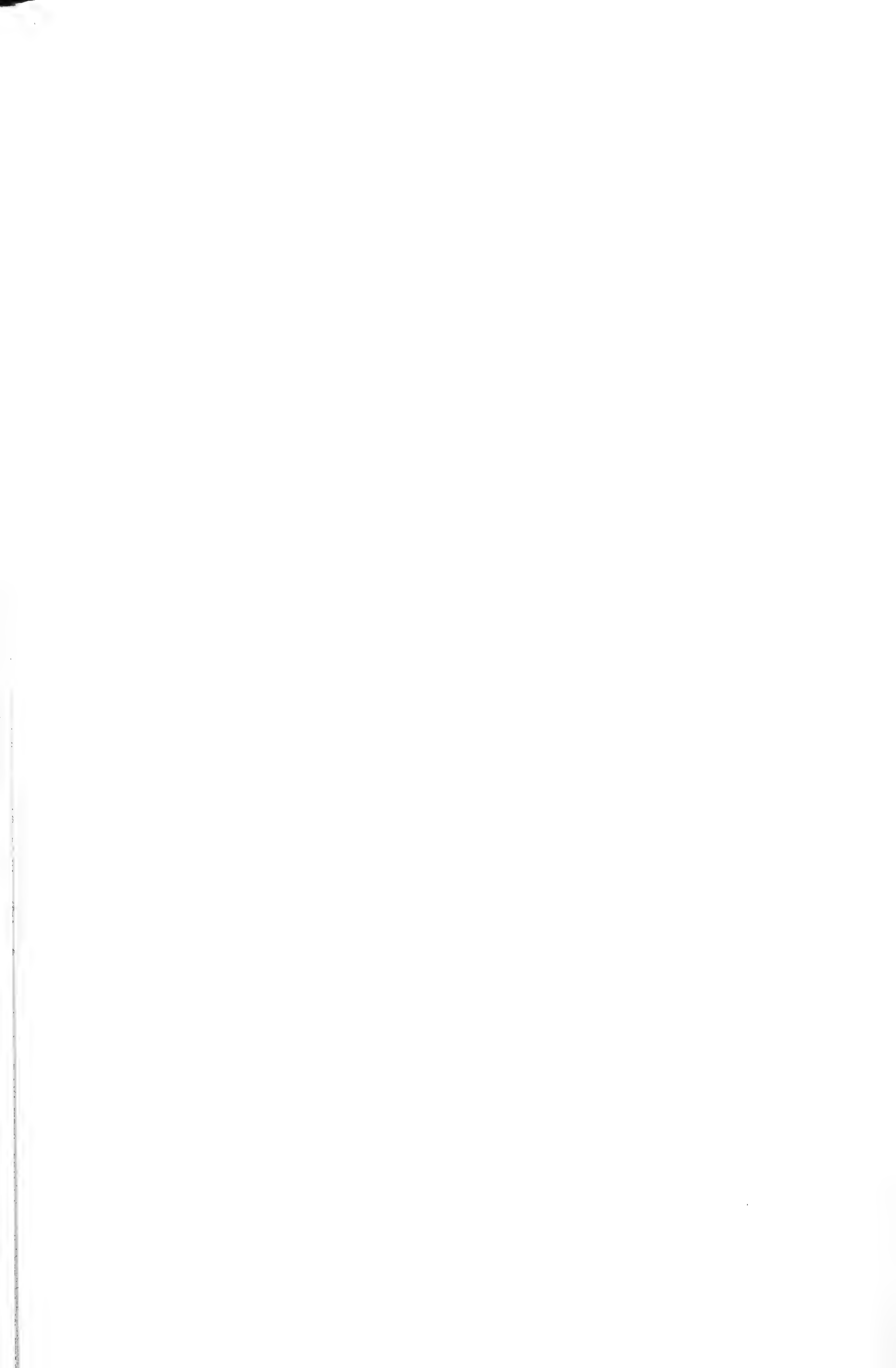
Rudd's catch totaled 4 Sorex and 1 Reithrodontomys

imm. We left the area at 8:00 am stopping at Inverness Ridge (see acc't for Sitta pygmaea)

Sept. 4 Nelson, Butte Co., Calif. Two cowbirds from this locality were brought into the Museum by John Cowan (manager, Gray Lodge Refuge) on Sept. 26. I prepared one as a skin (#621) I sexed both and examined their skulls; both were first-year males molting from juvenal to the black adult plumage. (Rec'd in flesh, frozen; one too badly bloodied to be preserved.)

Sept 9 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif.

10:00 am - Fox Sparrow - yellowbill along dirt road S of creek near Madrone Grove S of Botanic Garden



K Dixon  
1951

Journal

Oct 8 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. PARTLY  
CLOUDY; CALM. I walked up Canyon Rd at 8:35 - In  
area SW of pool, Hermit Thrush and Robin in madrone  
with ripening berries (thrush flitted wings; reddish tail  
seen clearly). Fox Sparrow with yellow bill, brown head down  
slope.

9:00 - in oaks on slope W Poultry Lab, flock of Bush-  
tits, 2 or 3 Hutton Vireos, Downy Woodpecker, Townsend  
Warbler (1, ♀ plumage), Black-throated Grey Warbler (1,  
throat white, faint blackish bar on breast), Hermit  
Warbler (1, head yellow, "bib" shining black, extending  
well down breast).

The slopes of the draws on the north side of the  
canyon are heavily covered with grasses. As I recall  
this is the second year during which there has been  
no grazing in the canyon. Small mammals, presumably  
Microtus can be seen scurrying for cover in broad  
daylight; one entered a crack in the ground as  
I approached. Runways are evident everywhere.  
No evidence of California Quail nor of Rufous  
crowned Sparrows on slope above brush patch in  
1st draw W Lab where I had seen them in 1947-48.

Oct 9. In canyon 4:15 - 5:30 accompanied by R. I. Bowman  
We set traps hoping to catch Zonotrichia in <sup>the</sup> 2 draws  
W Poultry Lab. At 4:40 pm we watched 3 does follow-  
ed by a spike buck mule deer cross grassy area of  
1st draw W Lab from pines to W, disappearing in  
pine grove



KDixon  
1951

# Journal

Oct. 10 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. - In canyon  
9:00 - 9:55 am - 3:55 - 5:30 pm. see acc't Parus  
inornatus - hard rain 10:30 - 11:30

Oct 11 see acc't Parus inornatus, Cyanocitta

Oct 13. In canyon, 6:20 - 8:00 am, 9:30 - 11:45 am, 1:30 -  
5:15 pm. Warm, clear. See acc't for Parus,  
inornatus, P. rufescens, Cyanocitta, Microtus,

Red-shafted Flicker perched on telephone wire  
at 9:30 am gave call "Teal" from that perch.

Oct 14 Willcat Cr., Contra Costa Co., Calif. In picnic ground  
downstream from tennis court Black-throated  
Grey Warbler (♂ plumage) and White-breasted Nuthatch  
seen foraging in oaks at 10:30 am.

On a walk along south bank of creek and around  
Jewel Lake (10:45 - 12:00 noon), Hermit Warbler  
♀ in woodland (Cogswell), Winter Wren, Dewick Wren,  
Audubon Warbler; at lake: Sora, Coot, Red-winged  
Blackbird (feeble chorus from cattails), Black  
Phoebe, Ruby-crowned Kinglet (♂ singing ♀ in  
willows at dam).



K Dixon

1951

## Journal

Dec. 12 Univ. Calif. Campus, Berkeley, Alameda Co., Calif.

Clouding in, calm. while watching chickadees along the creek N of life Sci. Bldg. shortly after 10:00 am I saw a bird I took to be a Warbling Vireo - size appropriate for that species; entire dorsum appeared concolored, pale grayish; eye stripe white; wings clearly unbarred. Bird not especially active. I did not follow it up (written Jan 2, 1952) [date and place certain because this date the only one on which I watched chickadees along the creek N of L5B]

Dec. 24 vicinity of Caswell on U.S. Hwy 99, Los Angeles Co., Calif.

one white-throated Swift seen flying overhead as I rode along highway in mid-afternoon.





K Dixon  
1951

## Journal

Nov. 1 En route, Berkeley to Redding, Tehama Co., Calif.

Departed from Berkeley at about 7:00 a.m. accompanied by Robert Norris and Joe Gorman. We drove the 1939 Dodge truck via Vallejo on U.S. 40 and turned N to the E of Vacaville, driving thru Winters, Yolo County, and later, N on US 99W. Arrived Redding about 12:45 pm. After lunch, we bought supplies including anti-freeze and drove E after 2:45, proceeding to Round Mtn. There we turned off hwy

driving to Squaw Creek and then downstream to Gray Rocks, 21 mi NE Redding, 2500 ft., Shasta Co., Calif.  
(This locality found on Shasta National Forest map)

The area, which we reached at dusk, is on a long ridge trending NE-SW; the westerly slope drains into Squaw Creek. The crest of the ridge was dry relative to the more shaded slopes; a woodland of Kellogg Oak, Digger and Yellow pines, an occasional buckeye. Downslope to SE were some Douglas firs. Ceanothus cuneatus grows in patches on higher, more exposed slopes; scrubby oak (Kellogg?) on sunny slope below lower cave where Gorman has found Hydromantes. Undershrubs where Corylus and a small amount of poison oak.

After 7:30 we accompanied Gorman to a cave where he had marked about 13 Hydromantes five weeks earlier. He was successful in finding only 2 adults and one cluster of 9 eggs although she spent some time removing rocks from the roof to see if the salamanders had tunnelled in. Later we set out a line of three dozen mouse traps.



K Dixon  
1951

Nov 2 Gray Rocks, 21 mi NE Redding, 2500 ft., Shasta Co., Calif.

The day dawned clear; light filmy clouds moved in from W during forenoon forming thin overcast. Breeze from E after 10:00. I hunted on slope S of camp from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Steller Jay - numerous, often seen singly but with tendency toward gregariousness. I took 3 and left another in mistletoe mass high in oak.

Scrub Jay - 2 heard simultaneously; later a scrub jay, perhaps a third, seen in Digger Pine upslope.

Acorn-storing Woodpecker - 2 in tall snag near end of road - wary

Hairy Woodpecker - several heard, one taken (♀, 627) in Digger Pine

Downy Woodpecker - one moved through camp during breakfast

Red-shafted Flicker - common

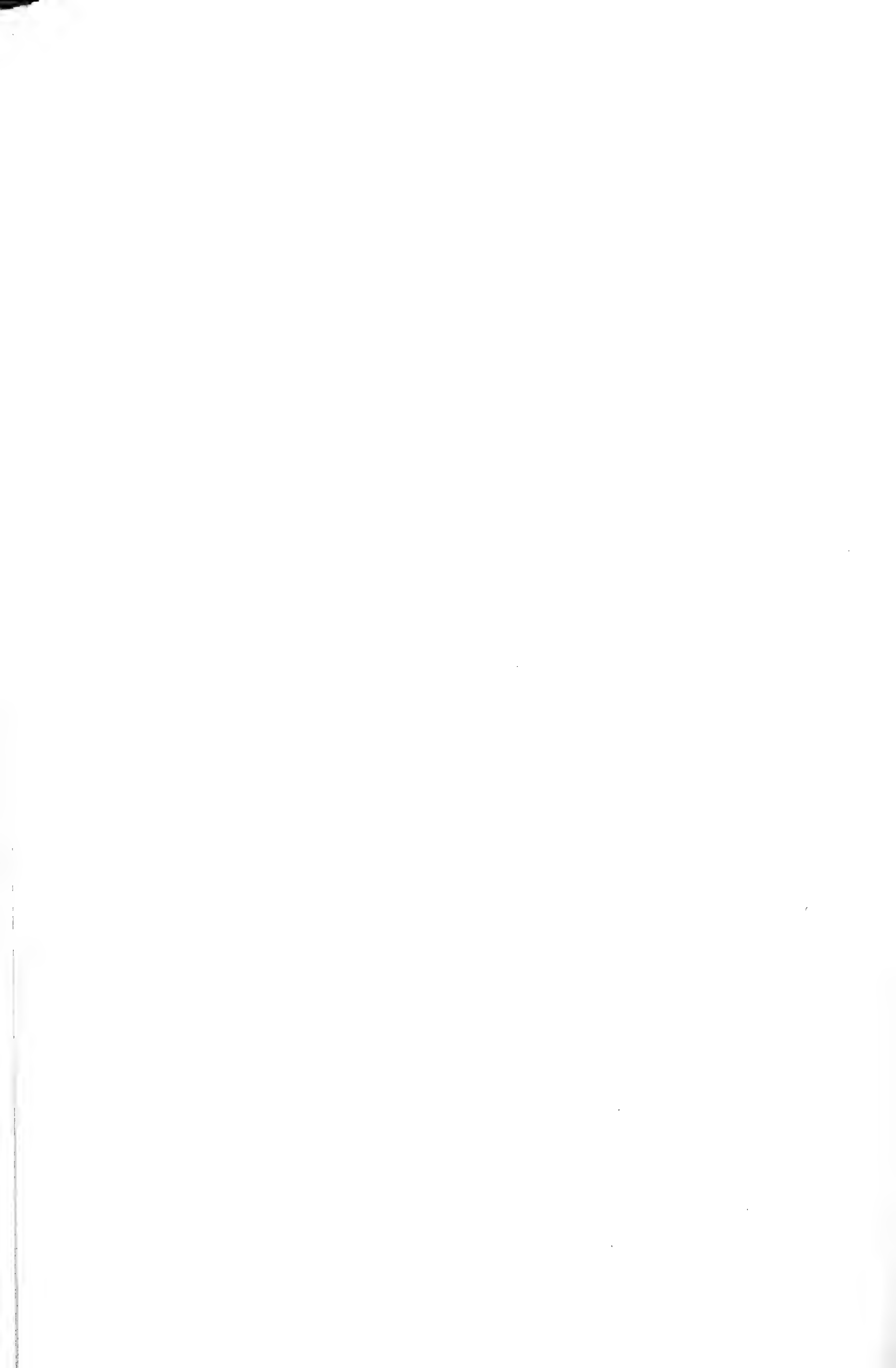
Mountain Quail - a flock of not more than 9 or 10 in patch of scrubby oaks on sunny slope at 8:45. Single individuals moved upslope on foot - one flew. I took two - another flew upslope, there were chuck and whimpering calls and others apparently moved away from me to westward in brush. No others encountered.

Wren-tit - single bird seen in brush on sunny slope.

Spotted Towhee - pair in scrubby oaks

Bewick Wren - in same area

Bush-tit - flock of  $\pm 8$  moved along in oak brush and crossed ridge onto W slope.



K Dixon  
1951

Nov. 2 Gray Rocks, 21 mi NE Redding, 2100 ft., Shasta Co., Calif.

Plain Titmouse - pair heard early. After 10:00, two seen moving along with Bush-tits - (see spe's acc't)

Hutton Vireo - with same flock moving along thru oaks, Digger Pine, buckeye.

Purple Finch - one heard on sunny slope (note chur-reedy)

White-breasted Nuthatch - single bird taken while foraging on dead tree branch

Crepper - one taken working on trunk of Douglas fir - calls exchanged with another individual

Oregon Junco - in fir - pine - oak of shaded slope

Robin - several heard flying over

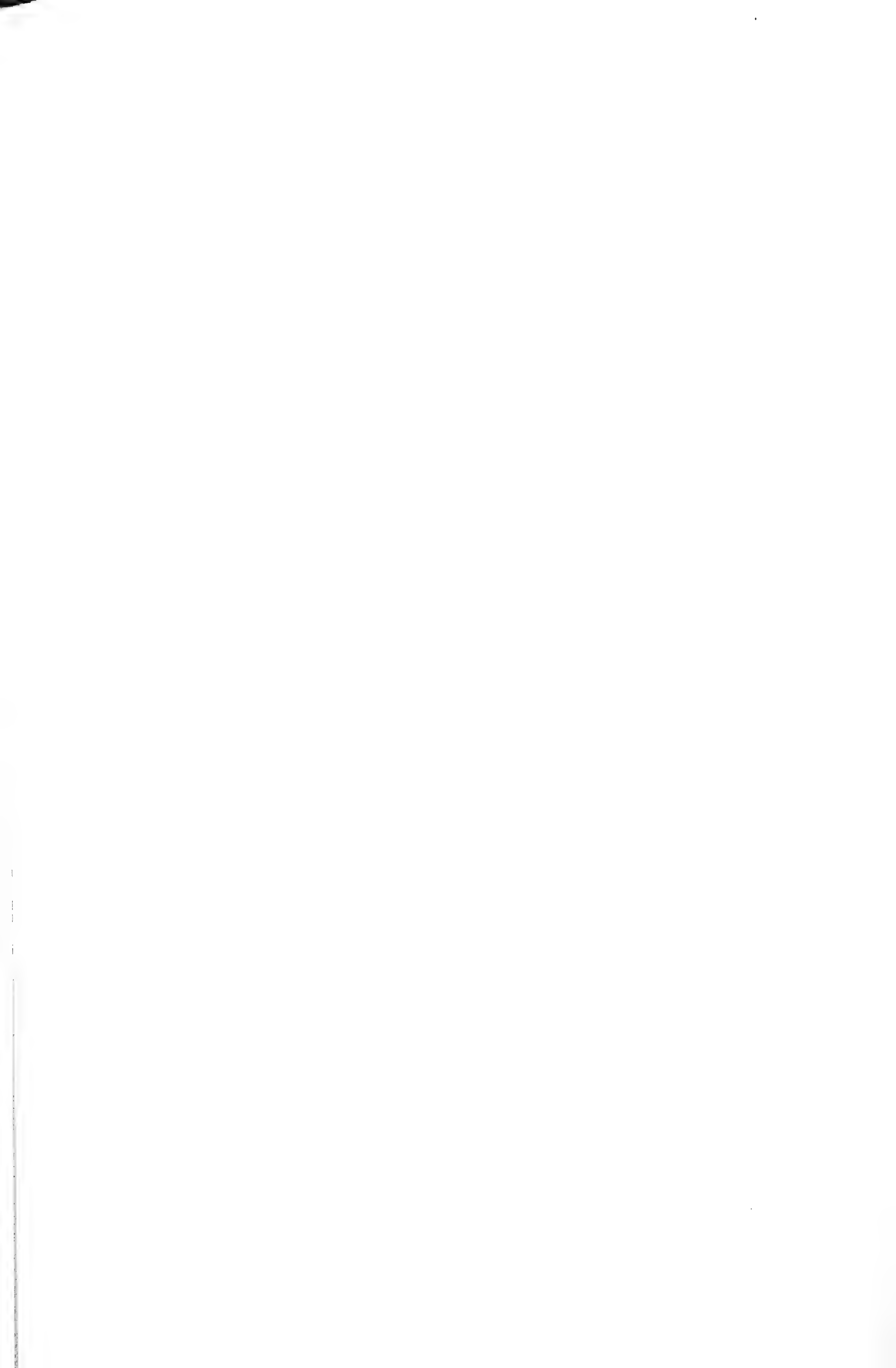
Band-tailed Pigeon " " " (#6)

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - one in oaks

After 9:45, I walked along the road down the shaded slope. Dogwood was conspicuous here with red leaves. Flock of Golden-crowned Kinglets (5 or 6) in this area.

[Norris worked lower on this slope and took Parus rufescens, Western Bluebird and saw Winter Wren] About noon, we heard repeated single notes of a Pigmy Owl down this slope.

We spent the early afternoon hours skinning birds. I prepared a Peromyscus (#626, ♀) taken by Gorman. It had no embryos; mammary glands regressing. We broke camp in midafternoon, driving back downslope toward Squaw Creek. We drove to a cascading brook and Gorman took an Aneides flavipunctatus under moist rocks in "splash zone" of fall.



Nov 2. Low Pass Creek, mi. NE Redding, 1500 ft., Shasta Co., Calif.

Along this streamcourse, a tributary of Squaw Creek, the type locality of Hydromantes shastae is located. The canyon is steep-sided with oak and Digger Pine on the rocky, south-facing slope. Caves in a large limestone outcrop were where Gorman had located the salamanders previously; none found this evening.

The sun had set when we arrived; I flushed a Steller Jay from a roost in a streamside alder(?) and collected it. Canyon Wren sang from south-facing slope. Creeper called from row of deciduous trees, probably before settling for the night. N-facing slope had cover including Douglas Fir.

We drove west over about 40 miles of winding dirt road to Hwy 99 at the ~~Sanamento~~ River, thence N to Dunsmuir, Siskiyou Co. — we dined there at 9:30 p.m., then drove N to Weed. After some searching we found a patch of pines NE of Weed ( $\pm 2$  mi) on Hwy 99 and rolled out our sleeping bags.

Nov 3  $\pm 7$  miles NE Weed, Siskiyou Co., Calif. — we drove out to patch of pines N of road — growth sparse in gravelly wash — Purshia and ? Chrysothamnus forming chief cover of Great Basin sagebrush aspect. Scrub Jay and Robin noted here; no nuthatches so we returned to Weed. After breakfast, we drove W on Hwy 99 for 4 miles, then turned southwest. Four miles up the road, we reached Stewart Spring in yellow pine country, then drove up road another mile.





Nov 3. Park Cr., 6 3/4 mi. W Weed, 4300 ft., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

We arrived in this area about 9:30 a.m. - SUNNY, CALM.

I crossed a roaring creek and worked up the north-facing slope, which was covered with open forest of Douglas Fir, white Fir, and yellow Pine. There were open places, either rocky or grown to waist-high deciduous shrubs. Some dead trees standing; no recent logging. Only five bird species encountered in 45 minutes: Steller Jay, Robin, Hairy Woodpecker, <sup>all singly,</sup> Golden-crowned Kinglet (flock  $\pm 6$ ), and Brown Creeper. I took the Creeper from a flock of birds I believed to be Golden-crowned Kinglets.

I crossed the creek and started up the south-facing slope at 11:00 am. This slope was much more open, having been logged over during the last year or two. There were exposed rocky areas and other patches grown to Ceanothus. Some areas of bare earth scarred by log dragging. Chipmunk seen running along log at base of hill. Sceloporus in rocky area in sun. CLOUDING IN somewhat. I worked upslope to taller timber - yellow Pine, Incense Cedar, scattered Douglas Fir and Sugar Pine. Ceanothus prostratus on much of ground - some standing dead trees and patches of reproduction. little mangrove. Red-tailed Hawk - melanistic (rectrices and remiges whitish, all other feathers of underparts dark chocolate brown) Bird gave characteristic scream. Flew about in open areas.

Steller Jay heard calling (Kuk Kuk Kuk)

Golden-crowned Kinglet - single in Douglas Fir reproduction



Nov 3. Park Cr., 6 3/4 mi. W Weed, 4300 ft., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

The notes of Regulus satrapa I found were usually 3 or more in a sequence and not so high pitched as the one or two notes of Certhia; the latter were of a pitch more like the opening notes of Regulus calendula ♂ song.

Williamson Sapsucker — ♀ taken while working up

The trunk of a yellow pine

Norris took Pygmy and Red-breasted Nuthatches from a mixed flock on this slope. — [see his notes]

I took a Golden-crowned Kinglet from a flock of 4 or 5 foraging in Douglas Fir at base of this slope at 12:30. Later, I heard a chickadee call and followed it up. Two seemed to be present; they were wary but I caught a glimpse of a gray back of one bird.

Norris had taken P. gambeli upslope and call did not sound like the drawled version of rufescens.

We spent the night in this locality. A few drops of rain after 5:00 pm, then clear sky. Temperature above freezing although I had seen remnant snow patch on N-facing slope. Gorman, who found no amphibians along creek, drove to Ice Caves 11 mi NE of Weed during afternoon but returned emptyhanded.

Nov 4. En route to Montague, Siskiyou Co., Calif. We broke camp by 8:15 am and drove NE to Hwy 99, then north through Gazelle. We took a dirt road from Grenada to Montague, then N to Ager and five miles by road toward the NE, moving up into the hills.



K Dixon  
1951

# Journal

[see MacDoel Quad, 1941]

Nov. 4 Little Bogus Cr., 4 mi. NE Ager, 2600 ft., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

The floor of the Shasta Valley was essentially level, largely, grassland with some cultivation. All land on our route was fenced. Occasional hills were covered sparsely with brush (possibly Ceanothus cuneatus); higher peaks had a woodland of oaks of low stature. The woodland on slopes E of Ager (a railroad flag stop with one large ranch house) was covered with a woodland of oaks 12-15 ft in height for most part, junipers of similar stature, and scattered throughout, patches of buckbrush. - Green grass had pushed up several inches above ground. The woodland was essentially open. A south-facing slope on which I worked to some extent was barren and rocky - no oaks. <sup>Creek</sup> not running.

Scrub Jay - seen singly and in pairs - one taken from 3 in juniper, another (believed to be KLD 643) one of a pair in juniper along dry creekbed.

Brown Towhee - 2 pairs seen during period 10:15-11:45 - one member of pair flushed from Ceanothus clump taken after it flew upslope. Other pair also in brush, wary.

Plain Titmouse - 1 taken - see spec. acct -

Norris took 4 but I heard only one and was hunting Titmice especially - his area must have been better for them (in terms of vegetative cover?)

Bewick Wren - one taken in brush clump

American Goldfinch - call heard; flock of small finches overhead



Nov. 4 Little Bogus Cr., 4 mi NE Ager, 2600 ft., Siskiyou Co., Calif.

Townsend Solitaire - one taken by Norman - no others seen.

Robin - several individuals

Mtn. Quail - flock of 8 or 9 in isolated brush patch near streamcourse at 10:45 - moved up close to clump of 2 or 3 oaks, crossing 15 yards of open grassland usually singly, afoot. My impression was that they were easily observed in this habitat in which brush patches were small and scattered.

Red-shafted Flicker heard

Oregon Junco one flock of 3 or 4

Rana-boylei - as I approached a pool in stream bed perhaps 3 x 5 ft in surface, many small frogs jumped into water - I captured 3, either in mass of algae on bottom or exposed on rock substrate -

They exhibited a tendency to remain motionless even though not protected by cover over them.

Norris recorded Brown Creeper and Red-tailed Hawk and took Golden-crowned Sparrow and Wh-breasted Nuthatch

We left this area at 12:30 driving toward Ager.

Lewis W. W. W. - several singly on fenceposts of cultivated fields of oak-juniper area.

The mother of the rancher said that today was the first warm morning they had experienced in a week. Temperatures reached freezing nightly. There had been some rains, an aid to their grain crops.

Montague, Siskiyou Co., Calif. we saw several Black-billed Magpies in the vicinity; Brown Towhee habitat marginal





Nov 4 En Route, Yreka, Siskiyou Co., Calif. to Berkeley.

We drove through Yreka and then a S to Weed and Dunsmuir. We stopped at a creek on Shasta County line S of Dunsmuir, where Gorman took readings on thermometer but found no amphibians. He stopped at Flume Cr., Shasta Co. and found 2 or 3 Aneides flavipunctatus. We left this locality about 3:00, driving to Redding, stopping at Red Bluff for dinner and drove to Berkeley without mishap, arriving at 11:00 pm.



*Species accounts*



K Dixon  
1951

Lophortyx californica

Nov. 16.

CLEAR, COLD; STEADY WIND FROM THE EAST. I met Dick Henally at Inspiration Point on San Pablo Ridge at 7:00. We were joined by W.C. Russell and A.S. Leopold, each with his hunting dog, and we drove north 0.6 mi. to a gate to the water district property. We left the car there and walked down the ridge toward the E following the road to a point where it curves around the slope toward the spring.

From here we went downslope to a small flat at base of draw to N of road. We split up, Henally taking the ridge and I, the grass at the lower edge of the brush. The others followed their dogs through the brush. We started about 7:25 am and soon afterward a covey of quail flew upslope to W, all in the air at once it seemed. A.S. Leopold estimated 40 birds (almost a complete count); I saw no tags (neck markers) on any of the birds. We worked upslope and soon some of the quail flew out: 6, 9, 1, 1, 1

later 1, 1 then 1 downslope and another downslope at 7:32.

3 flew upslope (and 6 or 7 downslope at same time WCR) <sup>then</sup> 1 up, 1 downslope at 7:55 1, another later and two singles at 8:00. We reached the cross-path about 8:10 — five minutes later a quail flew from brush nearby 8:25 — 9:38 — we worked up next brush-covered slope to N, ending at maple tree — no quail.



8:25 - 8:38 2nd run - no gravel  
1 → 8:15

1 (8:00), 1  
1 (7:53)

3 - 6m7 down at same time (WC)  
1 ↑ 1 ↑

1 " 7:52  
1 down

1, 1

6, 9, 1, 1, 1

40 ASL

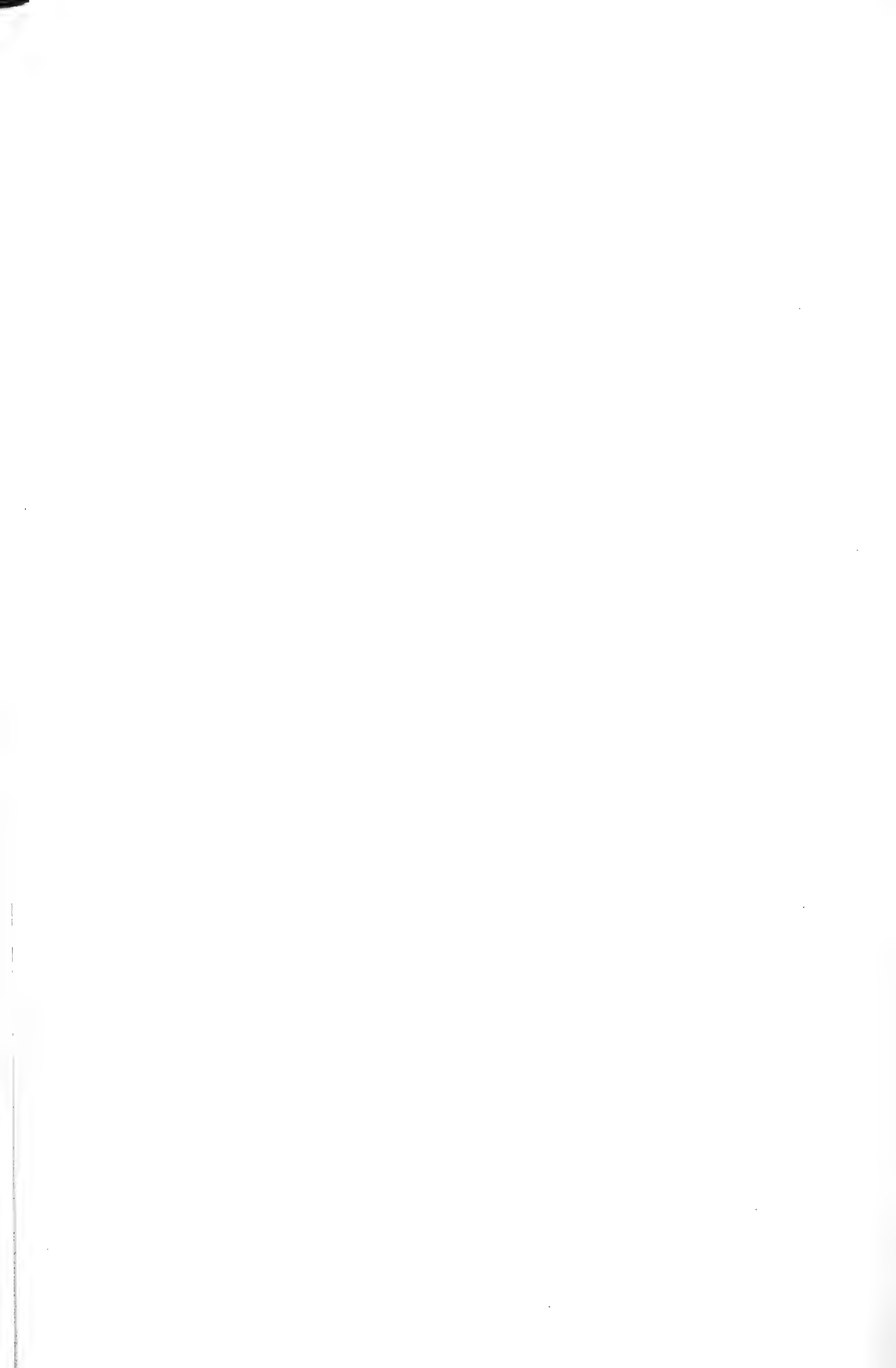
9:38 call down to  
45 Alex

5 + (7) 35 + 2 cables

5 29 1, 1, 1

2 ↑ 1, 1 (1632)

10:33 3 up to go





Lophortyx

Nov 16.

The slope behind the spring was covered next, the dogs covering this large brush-patch fairly well. We continued upslope to fence at 9:20. No quail on this slope.

9:25 - we started down brush of N-facing slope of ridge to N. 9:38 call from downslope - 9:45 eleven quail flew out of middle of brush by 2's and 3's. (see A.S.L.'s notes for sex ratio). These birds were not marked. We returned and crossed next draw 5 reaching road about 10:20. We "peeled off" and started down side draw which joins gulch a few yards above spring. Quail were flushed by the dogs well ahead of us - I counted 5 (generally counted 10 in this flight). Then main body of coveys flew down slope - I estimated 35 - these were followed by two couples, one of each marked by neck danglers. Leopold and Russell started down through brush heading for a point E of spring. At 10:29, 3 singles flew up. 10:32 - one upslope, one downslope. 10:33 - 3 crossed side draw well behind dogs and hunters. I started down ridge W side draw at 10:38 - no more quail flew. We left area shortly after 11:00 am without seeing more quail.



K Dixon  
1951

Colaptes cafer

Oct 22. Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. CLEAR, CALM

About 11:00 am I watched a Flicker perched in a bough of a madrone tree south of the pool pluck the 3 or 4 remaining berries off a cluster. The madrone berries were bright orange in color and the bird swallowed each one whole with a slight nodding movement of the head before picking the next berry.

As another Red-shafted Flicker flew into the tree, the bird I was watching flew northward across the canyon.



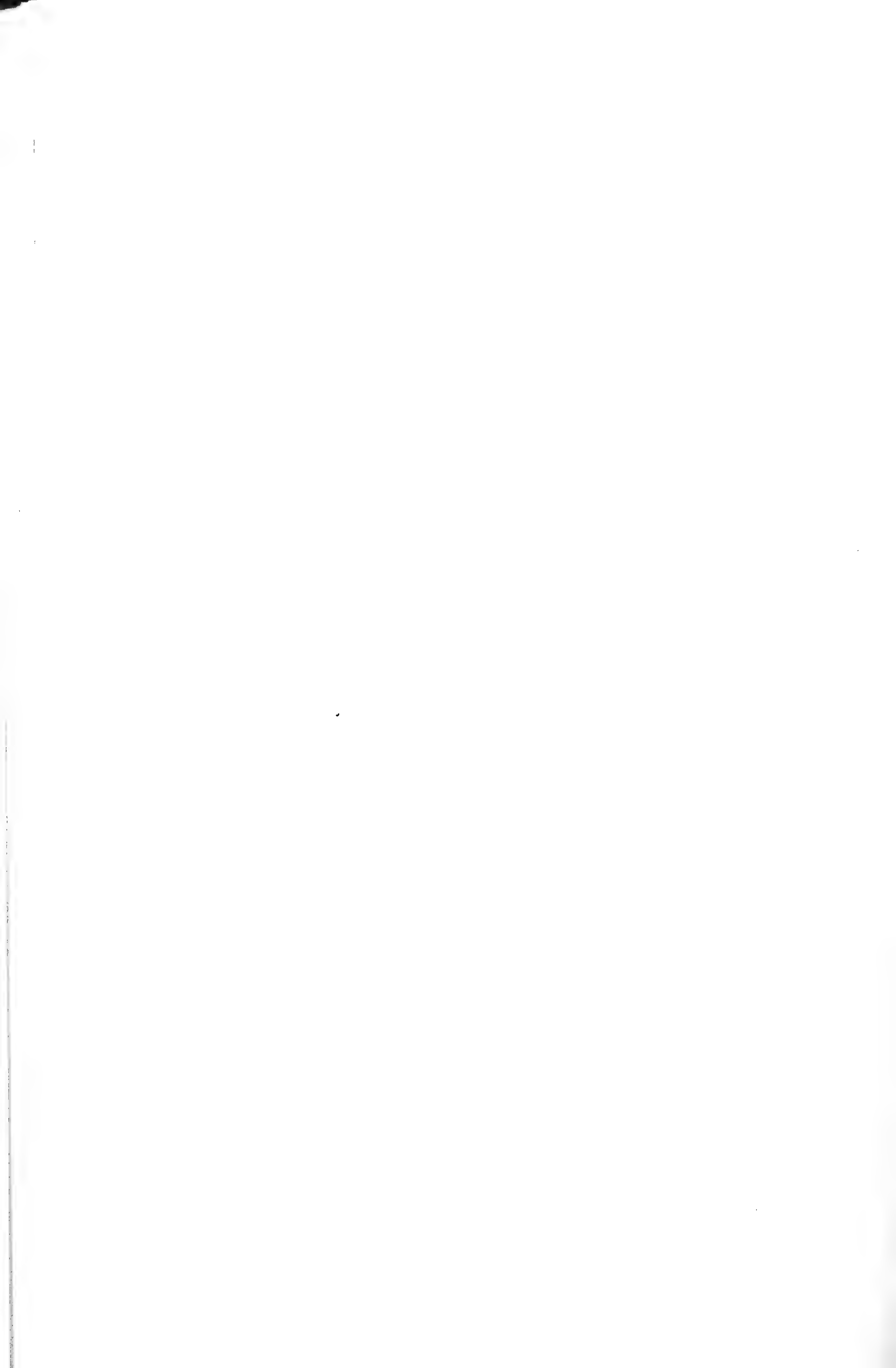
K Dixon  
1951

*Cyanocitta stelleri*

Oct. 11 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. CLEARING; NO BREEZE

At 12:00 noon in oaks on E side of 2nd draw W Lab  
at least 4 Steller Jays were present, calling loudly.  
Kuk kuk kuk was the call given most frequently.  
There was also a shrill "squeal" similar to the  
scream of a Red-tailed Hawk. As the birds moved  
downslope, I heard a hoarse cra-a-a-ah  
prolonged and dry; This call was alternated  
at least twice with the sharp kuk kuk kuk  
of another individual approximately 20 yards  
away. No calls of Apelocoma heard at  
this time.

Oct 13. ~~thurs~~ 11:10 - lone Steller Jay in pines below cowpath  
on ridge W Poultry Lab gave call cra-a-a-ah drawn  
out, then flew to grove to N giving loud kuk kuk kuk  
in flight.



K Dixon  
1951

Aphe/ocomia

- May 23. Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. - see species acc't of Pheneticus melanocephalus for observation of Scrub Jay predation on grosbeak nestlings.
- May 29. see acc't of Parus inornatus (Steller #Scrub Jays attracted to trapped titmice - no harm done to titmice in traps)
- June 11. See acc't of Pipilo fuscus - lone jay attached to whee fledgling repeatedly & was mobbed by 6 towhees.

I noted a bob-tailed juvenile jay in oaks along road S of Strawberry Creek (S of Botanic Garden) at 8:55 a.m.





K Dixon  
1951

Parus inornatus

Nov. 2. Gray Rocks, 21 mi. NE Redding, 2500 ft., Shasta Co., Calif.

CLEAR early, CLOUDING IN during forenoon, filmy. CALM.  
About 6:30 a.m. we heard titmouse calls downslope SE of camp. An hour later I heard 2 birds answered each other in closely spaced deciduous oaks on that same slope. (Both Digger and yellow pines there)  
Titmice silent after 8:00

After 10:00 I heard calls in buckeye and Black? oak on slope below salamander cave on same slope (N of row of digger pines). Titmice and a Hutton Vireo moving along to westward with a flock of  $\pm 8$  Bush-tits. Titmice called only intermittently rarely sichadee dee. Bush-tits dropped over slope to NW; titmouse in Digger Pine - I fired at it with .38 and it circled sharply while flying downward (in tight spiral) and flew downslope, apparently unharmed). Titmouse heard calling subsequently in brush downslope but not seen nor heard, 11:00 - 3:00. Possibly not an established pair but rather drifting pair upslope or at upper limit of breeding range.

Nov 3.  $\pm 7$  mi NE Weed, Siskiyou Co., Calif. - area of great Basin sagebrush aspect (chiefly Purshia and ? Chrysothamnus) with scattered clumps of pine. This area did not appear to be Plain Titmouse habitat although a specimen was taken at the caves, 11 mi. NE Weed.



K Dixon

1951

*Sitta pygmaea*

July 15. Inverness Ridge, Marin ~~County~~ County, Calif. OVERCAST; LIGHT VARIABLE Breeze. (Area on ridge W of Shell Beach but on Tomales Bay slope.) Woodland chiefly of pine with scattered lower live oak and madrone. Many scattered dead trees standing & fallen. I hunted for half an hour, perhaps in woods too open before locating nuthatches in protected slope at 2:10.

One individual seen foraging alone, working down branches for most part; gave nasal krip once perhaps in alarm at my presence (It had flown to branch above me; shifted out of sight after giving note). However call wi-bi-dick given in turn by 3 birds in area, presumably nuthatches. I was able to see only one however. I left at 2:25.

Other birds noted in woodland (understory included hazel, poison oak, <sup>ceanothus</sup> and reproduction of taller trees):

Western Flycatcher

Hawk

Scrub Jay

Chestnut-bled Chickadee

Flicker

Wren-tit

White-crowned Sparrow

Bewick Wren

Song Sparrow

Violet-green Swallow

Purple Finch (singing)

Brown-Creeper

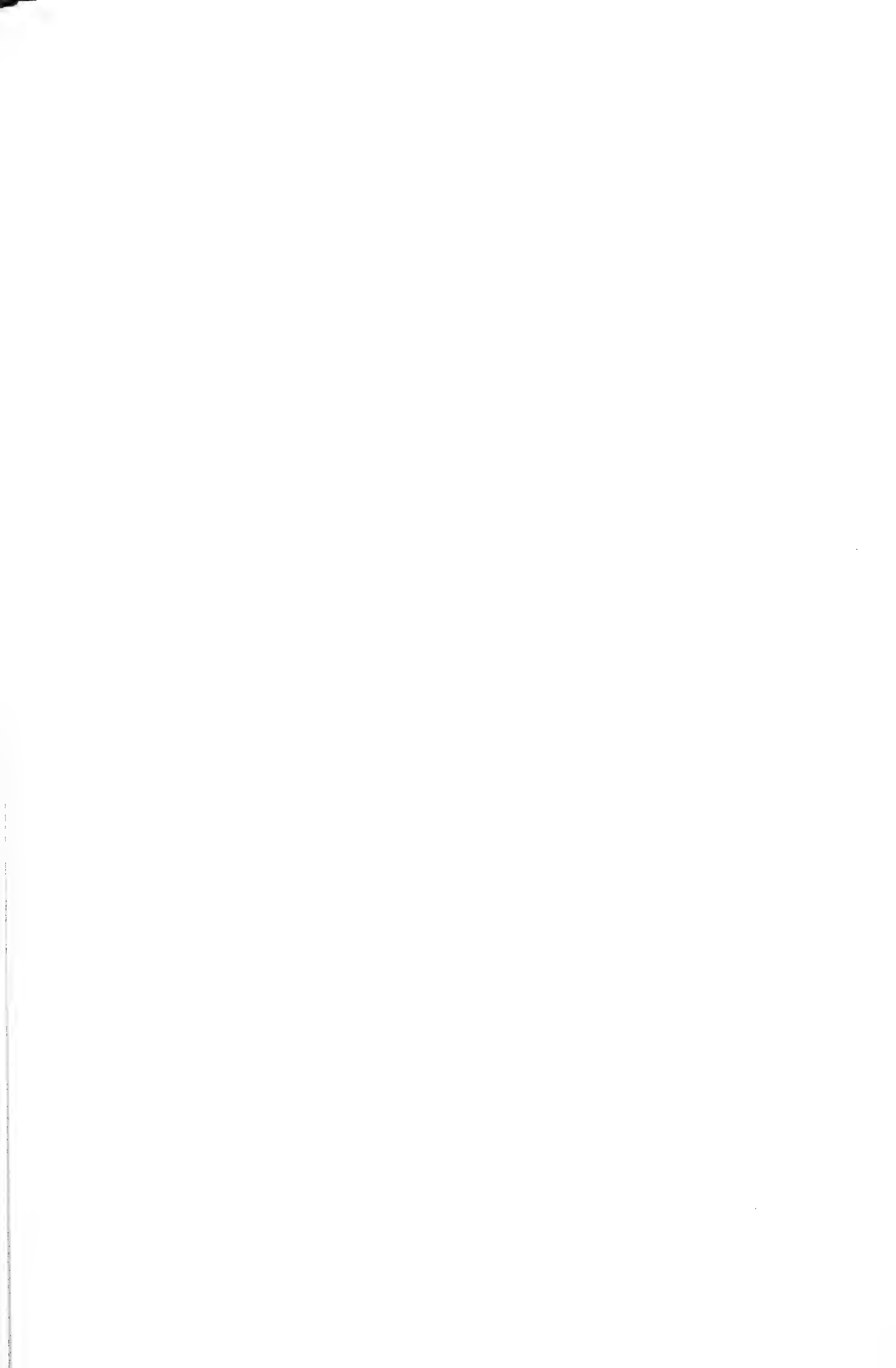
Bush-tit

American Goldfinch

Yellow Warbler

Spotted Towhee

This assemblage includes a considerable number of hole-nesting species; many dead pine trees standing however



K Dixon  
1951

*Sitta pygmaea*

Sept. 14 Inverness Ridge, Marin Co., Calif. - Same locality visited July 15. High fog overcast, calm. 8:20 a.m.  
2 nuthatches flew in from pines S to perch on dead stump  $\pm$  12 ft. high; other nuthatches already calling wee-bi-deck from small pine 15 ft. NW (these trees beside road). A third nuthatch followed the first two almost immediately, perching on the trunk near the two, then flying to pine NE after a few seconds. I saw no threatening movement of the two nuthatches there and recalled no notes uttered. One of the two birds flew across the road to a patch of pines on the hill to the W; the other bird continued to work down the trunk, apparently foraging on the bark. One, then a second nuthatch flew to the stump from the pine NE (where they had not been visible and perched within a few inches of the lone occupant of the stump. I could detect no postures nor difference in notes, yet I had an impression of parent - juvenile relationship (no feeding and no begging however). One more nuthatch flew in from pine NE and I left them working on trunk.

I returned with shotgun 5 minutes later and heard the nuthatches 30-40 yards to SE in pines. One individual of a loose flock was moving down a trunk foraging and I shot at it.



K Dixon  
1951

Sitta pygmaea

Sept. 14. Inverness Ridge, Marin Co., Calif.

The .38 shell was a weak one and the shot sprayed against the trunk; the birds flew away. Call-notes exchanged while foraging were wi - bi-deck

They moved S, silent and appeared to be staying in the tops of the pines. I started to follow up calls of two or more birds heard in pines to SE of my position (wi - bi-deck again) then heard calls nearer to road, probably from birds shot at earlier. Bob Rudd was watching from the car — I shot a second weak shell but the birds (2) remained in a roadside pine and were joined by 3 more (Rudd concurred with this figure). I fired a third .38 shell and hit a bird well up in dead branches (15 ft high) but the bird was able to fly away although activity obviously impaired. We departed at this time (18:40)





x Dixon  
1951

Chamaea fasciata

July 26. Oakland, Alameda Co., Calif. - residential area at 320 62<sup>nd</sup> Street - scattered trees present but streets by no means tree-lined.

At noon I heard the steady pip-pip-pip song of a wren-tit from NW of our apartment house. ~~It~~ I have never encountered this species in the neighborhood before.

July 31. At 6:30 a.m. (Daylight Saving time), I heard the same song from west of the house.

Aug. 25 Song heard from same area 8:30 - 10:00 a.m. intermittently. Never full song of ♂ trailing off at end with more frequent notes, but same spacing throughout as "♀ song"

Oct. 16 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. - while trapping sparrows, I captured a wren-tit banded 42-40894 in ground trap baited with grain in 2<sup>nd</sup> draw W Pontry lot on N side of canyon - 5:30 pm.



K Dixon

Hylocichla ustulata

1951

- May 13 Davis, Yolo Co., Calif. - cool cloudy morning; calm. In an old residence area of widely-spaced houses with shade and fruit trees I heard call notes of this thrush at 9:00 am. At least 3 Swainson Thrushes present, one calling more persistently than the others. A few minutes later I heard the full song repeated several times. (I did not hear this song at Berkeley during the previous week). Cedar Waxwings and Robins present, wintering Zonotrichia not in evidence.
- August 2. Univ. Calif. Campus, Berkeley, Alameda Co., Calif.  
One foraging on lawn beneath oaks in late afternoon  
Call note "whick" heard from another bird nearby.
- Aug 16. Shortly after 8:00 pm (dark) a Swainson Thrush flew up from ground beneath oaks S of L. S. B. Another called "whick" from south of path (N bank of creek). The first answered whistles mimicing its tone (whistled call).
- Aug 24. one in oak S of Life Sci. Bldg. at 5:00 pm - silent
- Sept. 9 - two heard along Strawberry Cr., Alameda Co., Calif  
one S of Botanic Garden, other in Elders S of Poultry Farm 10:00 a.m.
- Sept 12. Univ Calif Campus, Alameda Co., Calif. - One calling in trees along creek W of Sather Gate at 1:30 pm.



K Dixon  
1951

Pheneticus

May 23.

At 10:25 I was on ridge inside Botanic Garden between the 2 tributaries to Strawberry Creek which flow in from N. I heard loud calls quee quee quill (in various combinations but usually quee and quill in one "valley"). These came from oak just outside fence & NW of road W 2nd tributary. A ♂ grosbeak was flying from one perch to another on the W side of the oak (in peripheral foliage) and was giving this call quee quill (shrill, as though bird in distress). Both Steller and Scrub jay calling, the wilk wilk wilk of the latter being heard more often. I could see a Scrub jay perched in a bough (gray flanks clearly visible), motionless and silent. The ♂ Grosbeak and a ♀ crowded near him on twigs of same bough. ♂ called continually; ♀ silent, "glum-looking" less active than ♂ yet perching near within 12-15 inches of jay. ♂ shifted perch to another within a foot of & above the jay, continuing to call. wilk wilk of jay from interior of tree.

♀ shifted to perch a yard away from nest & ♂ flew near her. She pecked at his beak. I am not sure that another (♀?) grosbeak was not present. The jay left flying in toward trunk apparently for I did not see (him) again. I could see nest in position where jay had been. Grosbeak note spic, then silence.

At 10:45 Grosbeak in glade on ridge flew W. Simultaneously, notes queep queep queep of "squealing" quality from nest-oak. ♂ & ♀ grosbeaks there, both giving this call. ♀ on bough E of nest; ♂ entered nest bough



K Dixon  
1951

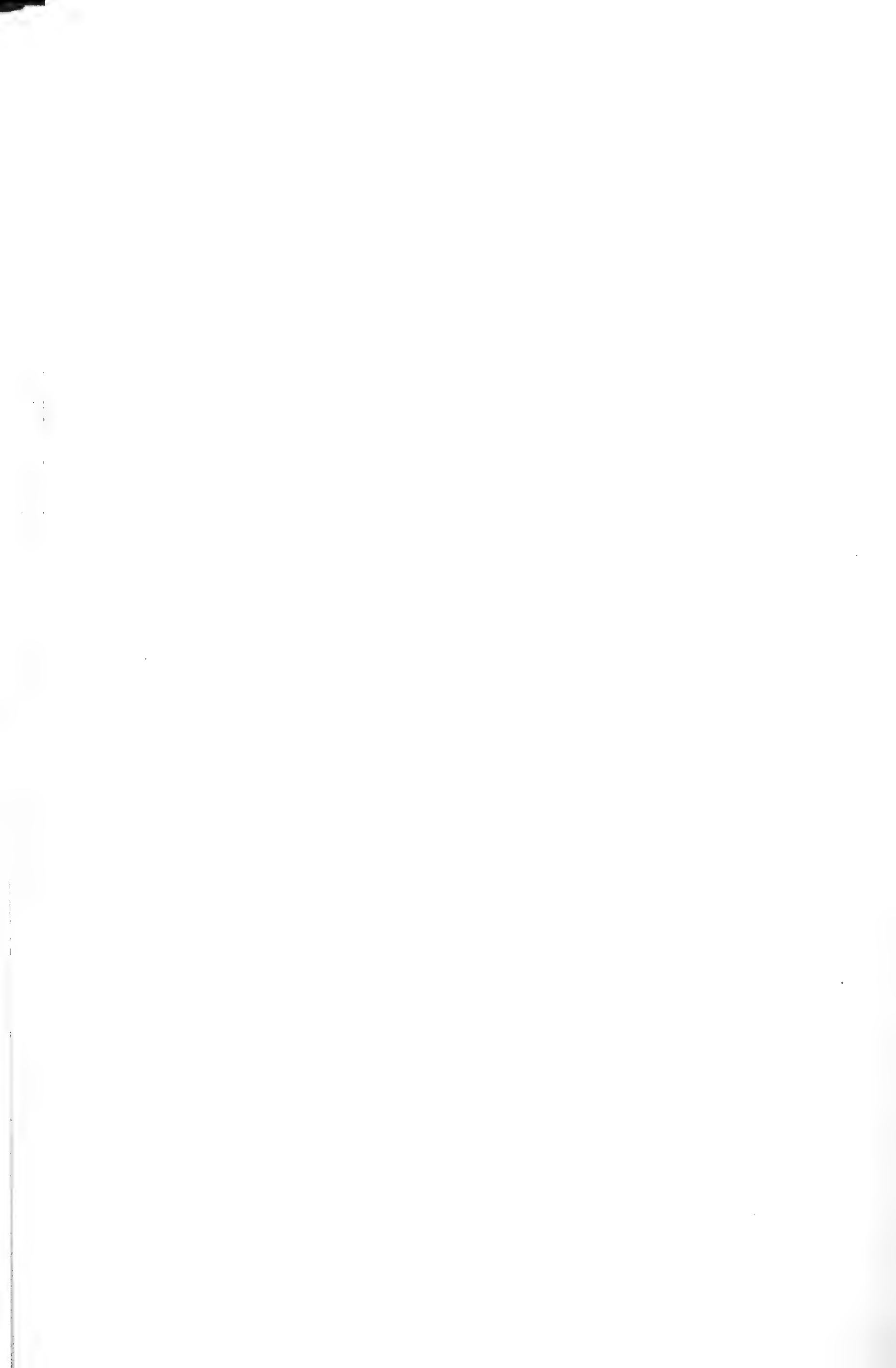
Phenicticus melanocephalus

May 23 Strawberry Canyon

from trunkward. After a few seconds he emerged on E side of bough and he + mate disappeared. I had given call gweep intermittently while ♂ "inspected" nest.

At 11:00 adults were not around & I inspected nest. It was in periphery of bough, well screened by foliage; ~~height~~ height ± 9 ft above ground beneath nest (bank rose to N of tree although not so that I could see into nest). By pulling branch downward I could see inside. There was one nestling inside, blood oozing from right side of head anterior to eye and from left "wrist". Nestling was dead; its eyes were still closed and it had only down feathers. A few black dots indicated some of the feather tracts which were not down-covered.

During the first outburst of calls by the grosbeaks I saw a Song Sparrow approach the scene in herbs NE of nest oak. Later I saw a Song Sparrow in nest tree above the grosbeaks while jay was over nest. The sparrow was the only small bird I could see attracted by the incident although the cries of the parent grosbeaks may serve to evoke "mobbing" of predators.





K Dixon  
1951

Pipilo fuscus

June 11 Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. - OVERCAST; CALM.

At 9:45 am I was walking up the Canyon along the paved road NE of the Pool - I heard the loud call wilk wilk wilk of Aphelocoma and chattering calls of other birds. A compact group of birds flew along the row of oaks and acacias on the south side of the road, proceeding then downslope toward the east end of the pool. I crashed down the slope and noted, before the birds flew up, that the jay was raining blows on some object on the ground; several Brown Towhees on the ground around the jay gave chattering calls (which I did not record at the time).

The jay flew <sup>5</sup> to ~~the~~ lanceol at E end of pool (20 feet  $\pm$  from position on ground); it was followed by at least 3 towhees and a Black-headed Grosbeak. 2 other towhees flew to bank to north and gave call skee-yee — — —. I couldn't see what jay had attacked and I moved away to E of lanceol tree. The jay moved out along the branch & I could see nothing in its beak. It flew down to the foot of a bank W of where it had been (on level of edge of pool) and was mobbed by the towhees again. I ran over to the edge of the bank & looked down. The jay was attacking a juvenile towhee which had most of crown feathers missing but did not appear to be bleeding. My appearance alarmed the birds and simultaneously the juvenile towhee fluttered to weeds beside a heavy wire fence & made its way inside the fence & disappeared from my view (perhaps enabled to seek shelter as jay flew up). Three pairs of towhees involved in mobbing; one pair flew along bank to N. One member of one pair & chased one member of a second pair in direction west of north side of pool; then both



K Dixon  
1951

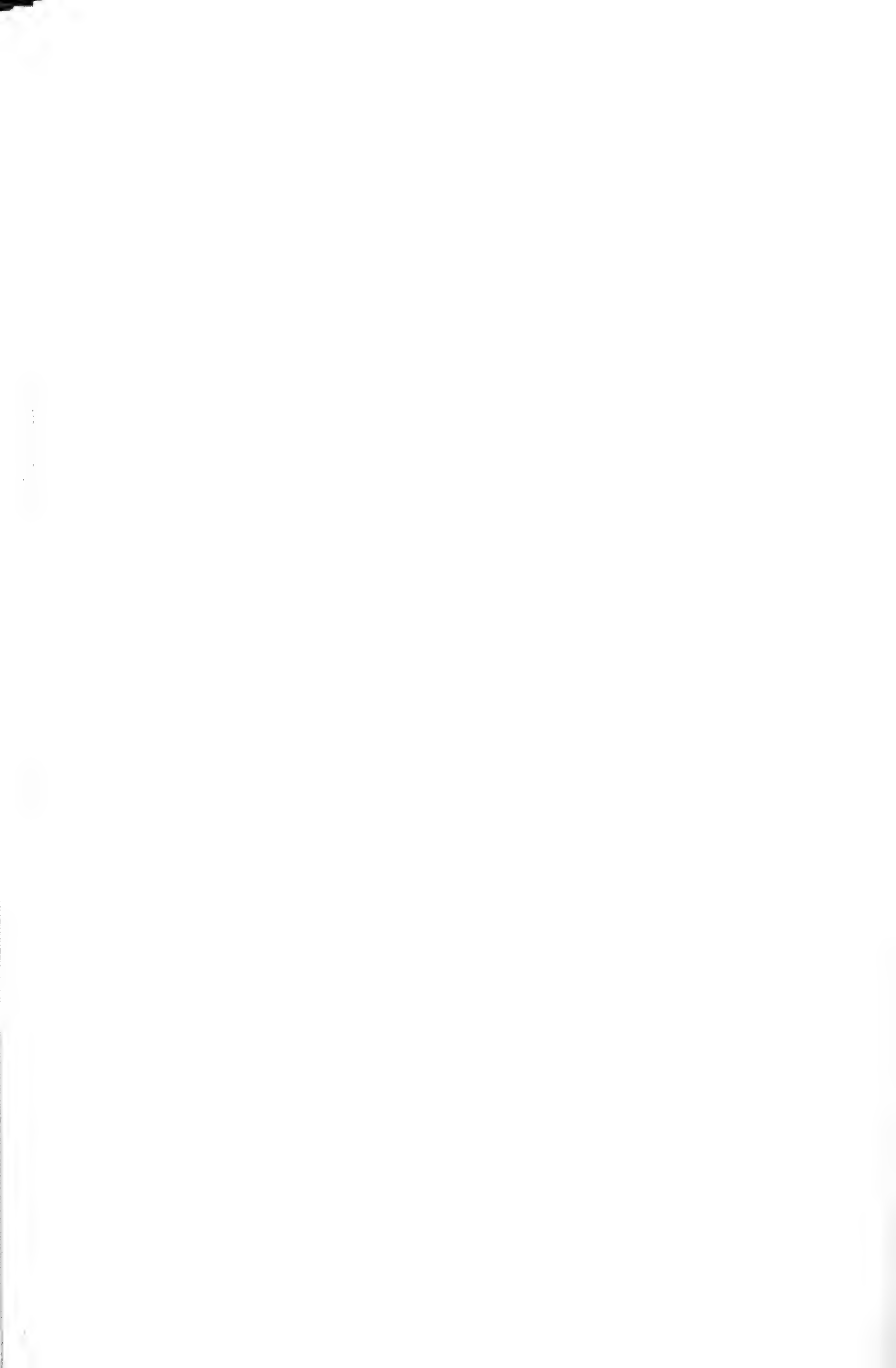
Pipilo fuscus

June 11. Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif.

members of former pair chased the other individual of the western pair, the one bird carrying its pursuit farther than the other did. (Presumably <sup>(my impression)</sup> the more aggressive of the two was the one who had chased other bird first). Then both members of pair which had ejected neighbors flew to concrete of pool edge and gave skee-yer — — (both gave call ??)

The jay returned & appeared to be looking for the juvenile, these flew away. The 2 towhees moved E along concrete walk and one moved toward weeds where juv. had sought shelter. This adult then tilted head upward in an awkward-appearing posture\* which it held for several seconds. I am not sure whether my presence brought forth this action (mate perched on ground several feet to W, inactive all the while). Posturing bird then hopped back in SW direction to Edge of pool, looking backward as it stopped as though watching to see what I would do.

cowbird-like



K Dixon  
1951

Pipilo fuscus

Nov 18 Univ Calif Campus

Red/green on right, white/alum. on left with unbanded  
bird in phlox on S side of circle at storeroom loading  
platform — 10:45 am

$\frac{Y}{Y}$  <sup>on right</sup> = green and Al on left — with unbanded N of mus —

P/R on left, white (above Al?) on right } in cotoneaster  
unbanded } N of steps

(P/R in poplar with  $\frac{Y}{Y}$  —) then latter 2 flew N

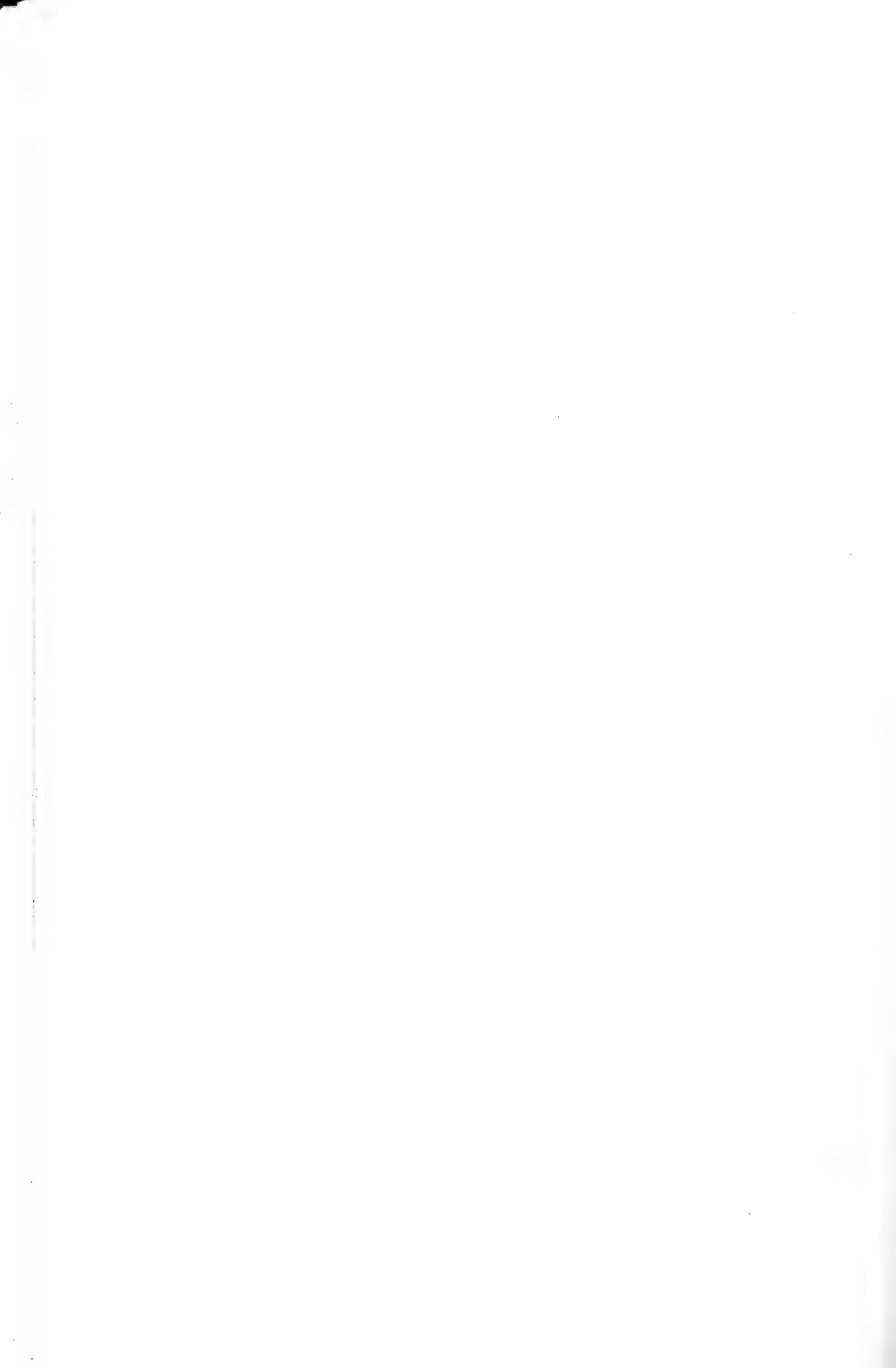
DEC 12 %A on right green/white left lawn along creek  
(S bank) N of Life Sci Bldg



*Melospiza melodia*

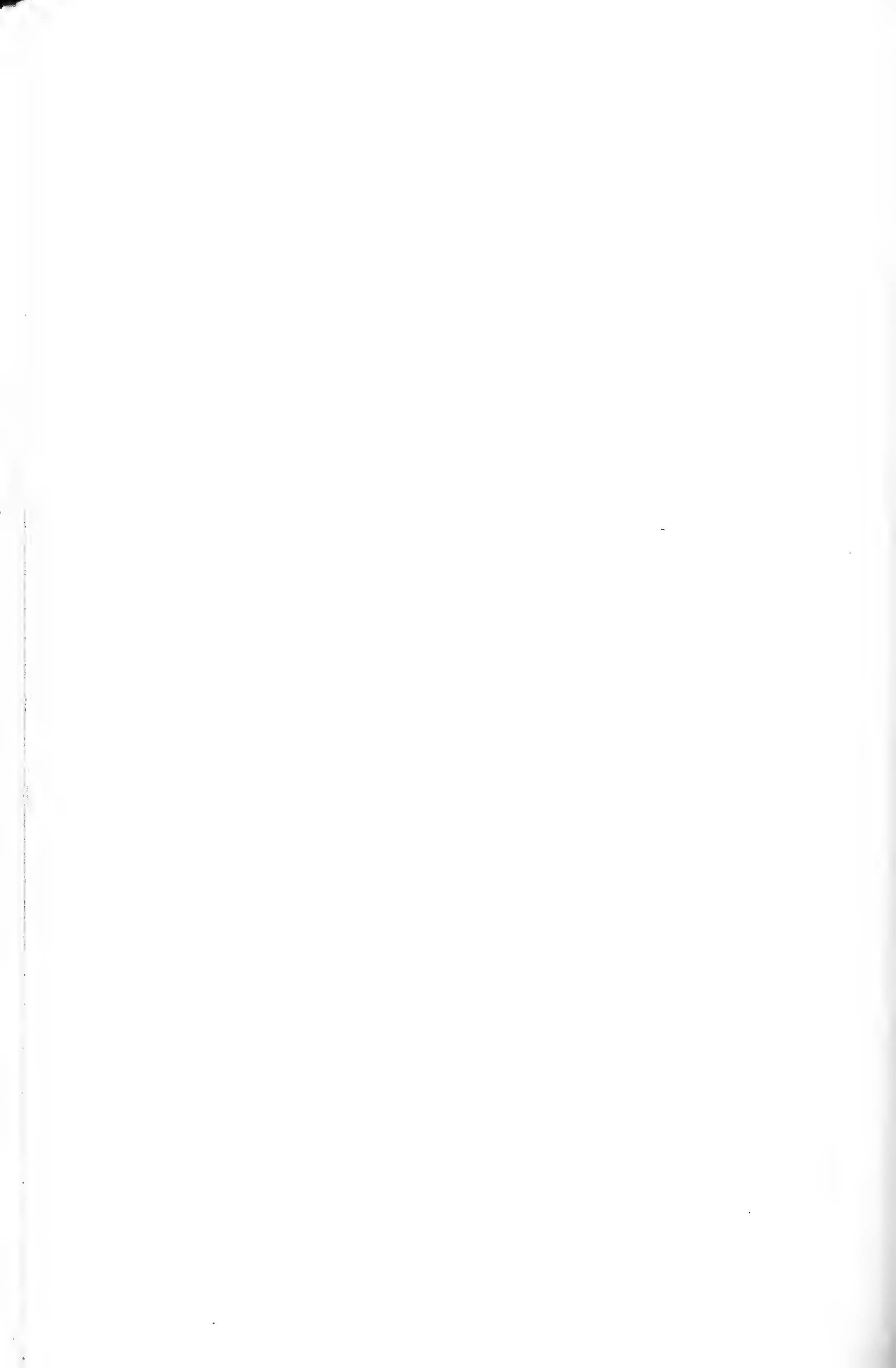
May 25 Strawberry Canyon

Adult caught at 10:10 am banded 42-40 & 75 on  
left leg.





Mammals

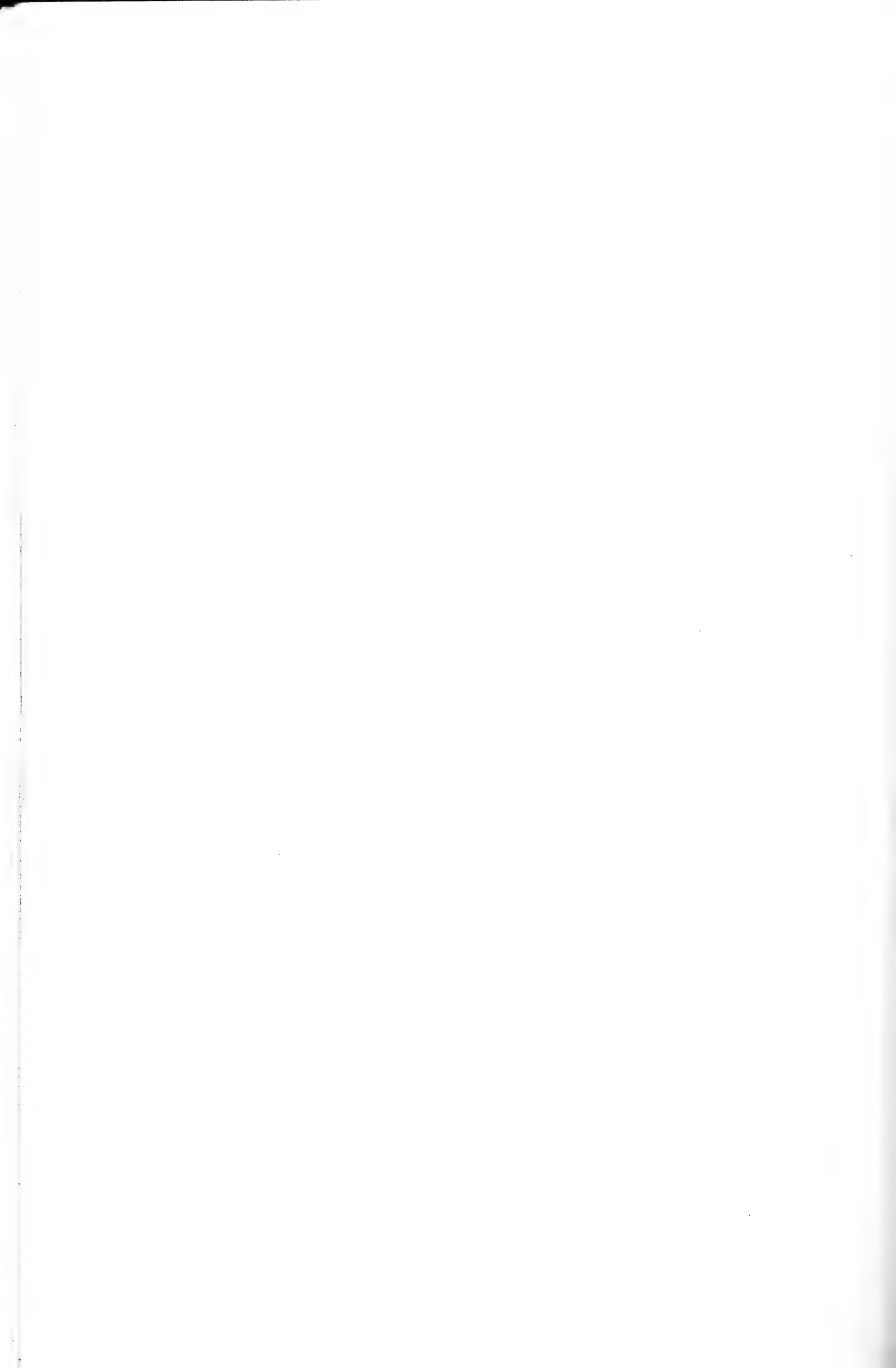


K Dixon  
1951.

*Sciurus niger*

June 5. Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. COOL, FOGGY a.m.  
At 9:05 I scared tree squirrel out of oak in which I had  
bird trap set on platform 12 ft above ground. As I  
approached along road, squirrel left tree which was  
along path on S bank of Strawberry Creek S of Botanic  
Garden. In 1947 I did not encounter Tree  
Squirrels in this part of Strawberry Canyon. In that  
year, as I recall, they were not active E of the  
area immediately to E of the last house on Canyon  
Rd. (55 Canyon Rd.)

Oct 15. CLEAR, WARM, CALM. I watched a Fox Squirrel clinging  
to peripheral twigs of a live oak bough and once  
thought it loose its grip and fall. (Height about  
15 ft above ground). The squirrel removed a  
green acorn, held it and cut the apex with its  
teeth shearing off part of the external wall. That  
part fell and was followed within seconds by  
the remaining part of the hull from which the  
endosperm had been scooped out by tooth action.

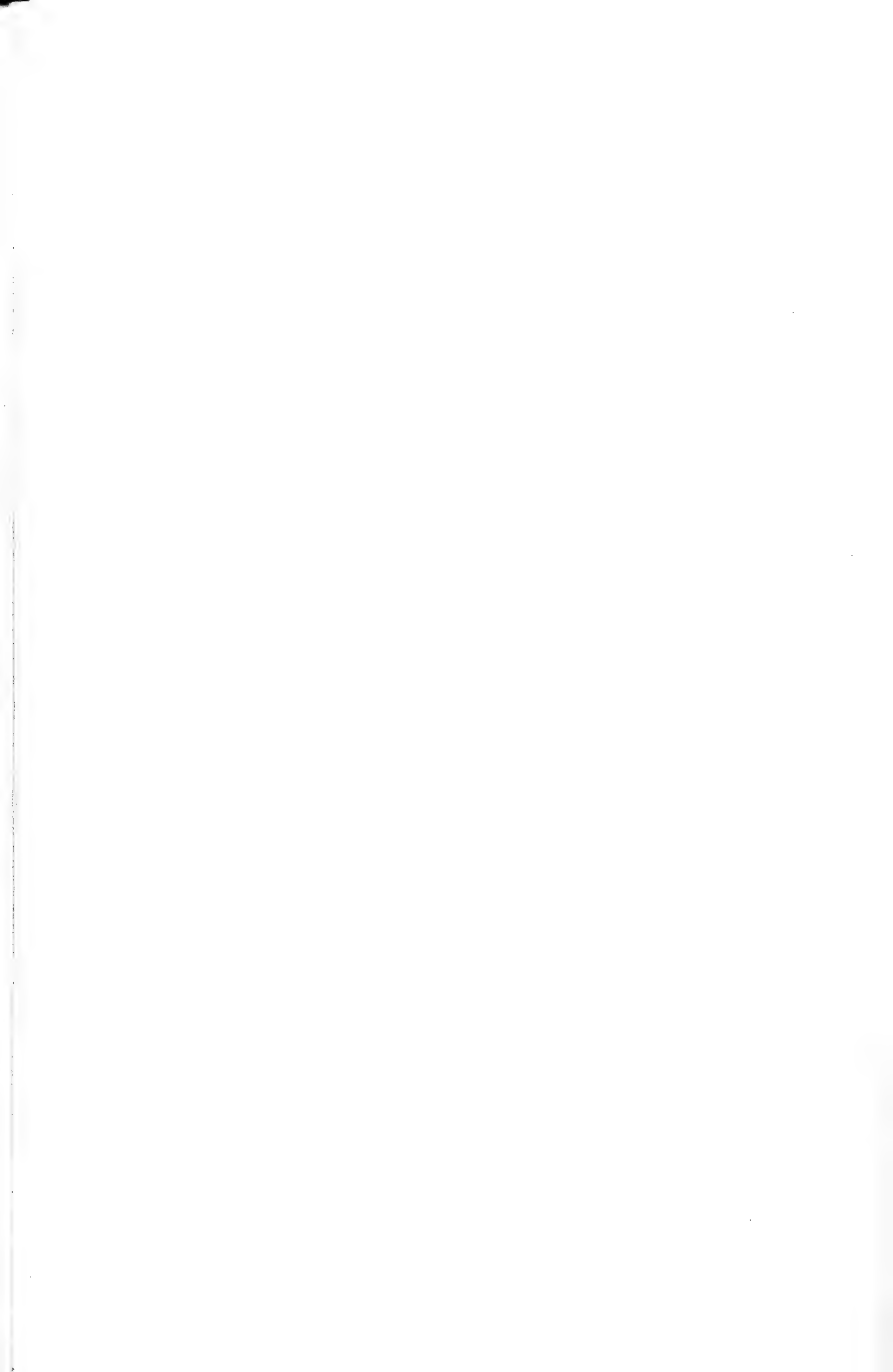


K Dixon  
1951

Microtus californicus

Oct. 13. Strawberry Canyon, Alameda Co., Calif. During the past several days I have seen countless meadow mice in daylight on the north slope of the lower part of the canyon. The ground, densely covered with un-cropped wild oats or other grasses, is criss-crossed with runways and burrows may be noted frequently. Some of the rodents seen may be Peromyscus (2 pale-flanked mice seen disappearing into holes in ground); the grassland habitat and runways indicate Microtus for the most part.

Despite the near-plague proportions of incidence of the rodents, predators appear to be few. One Red-tailed Hawk (bird of the year) seen several times, yellow-bellied Racer in grass on Oct 11, not more than 2 Sparrow Hawks; Horned Owl heard at night.



Dixon, K.L.

Texas, Jan. 26 - Feb. 21, 1952

Catalog nos. 650 - 744  
[647-649, missing]

Plant catalog

Journal

Species accounts





K Dixon  
1952

Catalogue

11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

Jan. 29

650

Cnemidophorus

Jan. 30

- 651 ♂ testis 1 mm. Amphispiza bilineata wt. 13.2 gm.
- 652 ♂ testis 2.5 mm Parus atricristatus } mated pair wt. 18.1 gm.
- 653 <sup>ad. sk.</sup> ♀ ovary 4x2 mm " " } pair very slight fat wt. 17.7 gm.
- 654 ♂ <sup>ad. sk.</sup> testis 3 mm. Toxostoma curvirostre wt. 82.1 gm.
- 655 ♀ ovary 6x5 mm Centurus auritrons } very slight fat wt. 77.8 gm.
- 656 ♂ testis 4 mm " " } mated pair wt. 76.0 gm.
- 657 ♀ largest ovum 1 mm. " " } wt. 82.7
- 658 Acris

Jan. 31

- 659 o? Amphispiza bilineata wt. 14.7 gm.

Feb 1

- 660 ♂ testis 4.5 mm. Parus atricristatus ad sk 18.6 gm.
- 661 ♂ <sup>ad</sup> sk " " testis 2 mm 18.2
- 662 ♀ <sup>ad</sup> sk " " ovary 5 mm } mated 15.5 gm.
- 663 ♂ <sup>ad</sup> sk " " testis 2.5 mm } 18.4 gm.
- 664 Acris
- 665 "
- 666 "
- 667 ♀ <sup>ovary</sup> 3 mm Spizella pusilla wt. 11.7 gm.
- 668 ♀ <sup>no</sup> emb. Neotoma 386-170-40-27 298.5 gm.

Kingsbury, Guadalupe Co., Texas

February 2

669

Cnemidophorus

pick-up



K Dixon  
1952

Catalogue

1 mi. NE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Feb. 7

691.

692

693 ♂ <sup>testis</sup> 1.5 mm. *Melospiza lincolni* mod. fat 18.3 gm.

4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Feb. 8

694 ♀	ovary 6mm	<i>Parus atricristatus</i>	no fat	} mated	19.7 gm
695 ♂	ad sk	"	no fat 3mm <sup>testis</sup>		
696 ♀	ad sk	"	no fat 5x3mm <sup>ovary</sup>	} mated	17.7
697 ♂	ad sk	"	no fat		
698 ♂	ad sk	"	no fat 2mm <sup>testis</sup>		19.6

2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas

Feb. 9

699 ♀	largest ovum 0.5mm	<i>Parus bicolor</i>	no fat	} mated pair	19.1
700 ♂	imm. sk.	"	no fat 3mm <sup>testis</sup>		
701 ♂	ad sk testis 2mm	<i>Parus atricristatus</i>	no fat	} mated pair	20.3
702 ♀	ovary 6x3.5mm	"	no fat		
703 ♂	testis 5mm.	<i>Parus bicolor</i>	"	} mated pair	21.4
704 ♀	ad sk	"	slight fat		
705 ♂	ad sk	"	no fat	unmated testis 3.5mm	20.4
706 ?	imm sk	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>			7.6

15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

Feb. 10

707 ♂	testis 1mm	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	slight fat	25.9
708 ♀	ovary 6mm	<i>Richmondia cardinalis</i>	moderate fat	45.8



K Dixon  
1952

# Catalogue

3 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas

February 11

709	♂	testis 6 mm.	<u>Parus atricristatus</u>	no fat	20.6
710	♂	testis 3 mm	<u>Parus bicolor</u>	" " }	19.7
711	♀	ovary 5 mm	" "	" " }	20.5
					mated pair
712	♂		<u>Parus atricristatus</u>		20.1
713	♂	testis 1 mm	<u>Geothlypis trichas</u>	slight fat	10.2
714	♂		<u>Polioptila caerulea</u>	slight fat pick-up	5.9
715	♂	testis 1.5 mm	<u>Melospiza melodia</u>	slight fat (bill malformed)	22.3
716	♀	ovary 7x7 mm	<u>Centurus carolinus</u>	no fat	64.5

2 1/2 mi. NW Cedar Creek, ±500 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

February 12

717 pick-up

7 mi. NW Bastrop, 300 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

February 12, ~~III~~

718	♂	testis 5 mm	<u>Parus bicolor</u>	no fat	} mated	21.9
719	♀	largest ovum 1.5 mm	" "	" "		19.6
720	♀	largest ovum 1 mm.	" "	" "	singing	20.2
721	♀	ovary 7x7 mm.	<u>Centurus carolinus</u>	not fat	} Mated	73.6
722	♂	testis 4 mm	" "	" "		78.7
723	♀	ovary 8 mm	<u>Cyanocitta cristata</u>	no fat		88.4

3 mi. ESE Del Valle, 400 ft., Travis Co., Texas

February 13

724	♂	imm sk.	<u>Parus atricristatus</u>	testis 4 mm	no fat	19.2
725	♀	ovary largest ovum 2 mm.	" "	slight fat	} mated	19.4
726	♂	testis 5.5 mm	<u>Parus bicolor</u>	no fat		23.4



K Dixon  
1952

Catalogue

7 mi. S Ranger, ±1700 ft., Eastland Co., Texas

February 15

727 ♂	testis 2.5mm	Parus atricristatus	no fat	19.5 gm
728 ♀	ovary 7mm.	"	no fat	18.5
729 ♀	ovary 6mm	"	" "	18.6
730 ♂	testis 2.5mm	"	" "	20.0
731 ♂	testis 1.5mm	"	" "	} mated 20.4
732 ♀	ovary 4mm	"	" "	
733 ♂	testis 2mm	"	no fat	19.9
734 ♀		<u>Parus carolinensis</u>	no fat	9.7
735 ♀		Sturnella magna	moderate fat	98.0
736 ♀	ovary 6mm	Centurus aurifrons	slight fat	90.3

Coll. by  
Pete Jameson

Coll. by  
Pete Jameson

2 mi. W Mineral Wells, 1000 ft., Palo Pinto Co., Texas

February 16

737 ♂	testis 2.5mm	Parus atricristatus	no fat	23.1
738 ♀	ovary 5mm	"	no fat	} mated 19.1
739 ♂	testis 4mm	"	no fat	

17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

February 19

740 ♀	ovary 3.5mm	Parus atricristatus	no fat	15.9
741 ♀	largest ovum 1mm.	Catherpes mexicanus	slight fat	13.6
742 ♂	testis 1.5mm	"	" "	13.1

7 mi. E Sunset, Lincoln Co., New Mexico

pick-up February 20

743 ♀	largest ovum 0.5mm	Callipepla squamata	ovary 12 mm	187.6
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9 mi ESE San Simeon, 4000 ft., Cochise Co., Arizona

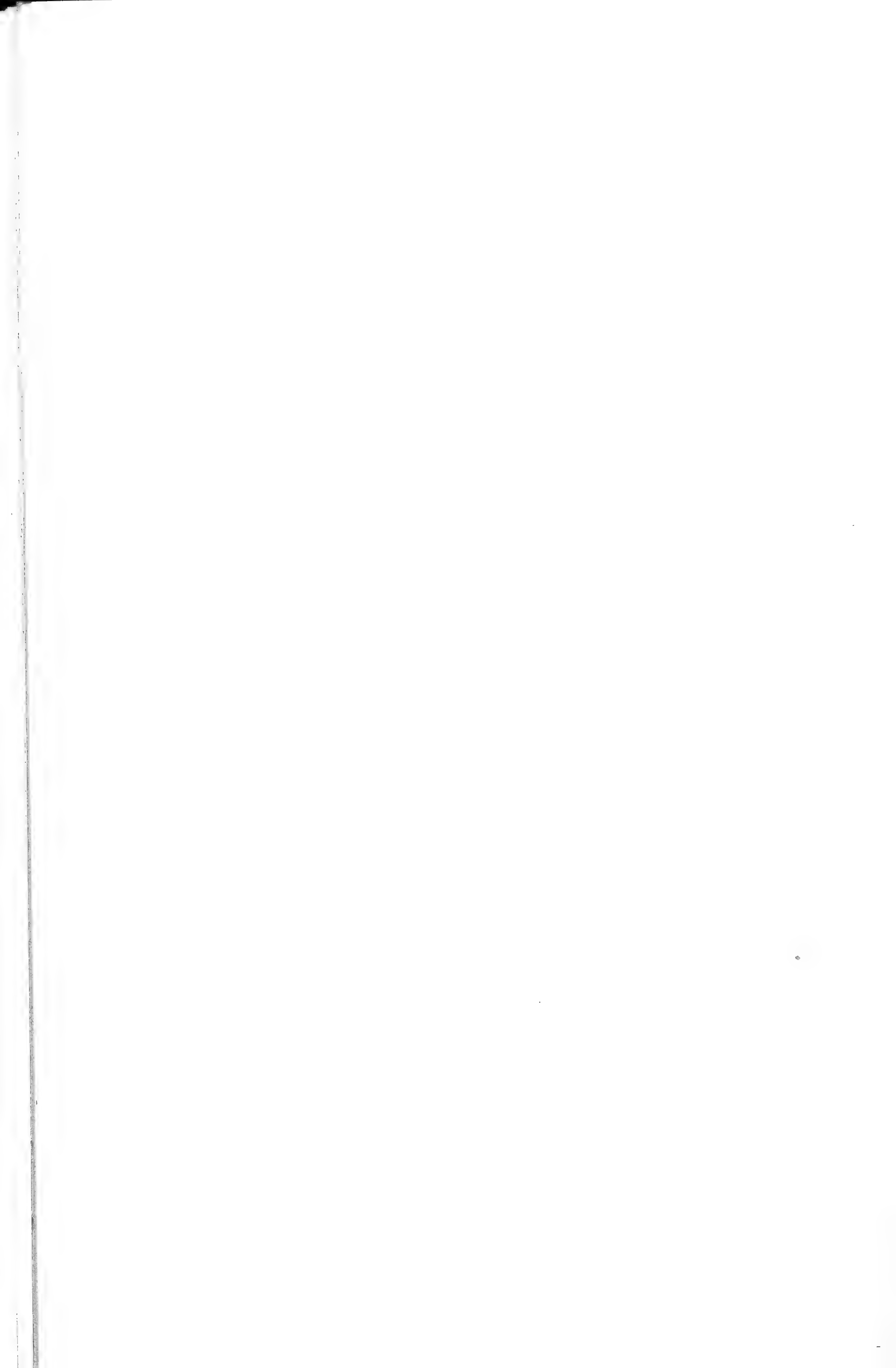
pick-up February 21

744 ♂	testis 15mm.	Bubo virginianus		
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Plant catalog



F. Dixon  
1952

## Plant Catalogue

Jan. 30. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

465. shrub 3 ft. growing with

the following

466. shrub (2 ft) at edge  
of brush patch

467 shrub to 7 ft. — no  
flowers — some with leaves shed

468 shrub 6 ft. rigidly-  
branched, somewhat spiny, few blackened  
fruits remaining

Jan. 31. same locality

469 shrub 2 ft high

470 green-leaf with small  
dried fruits

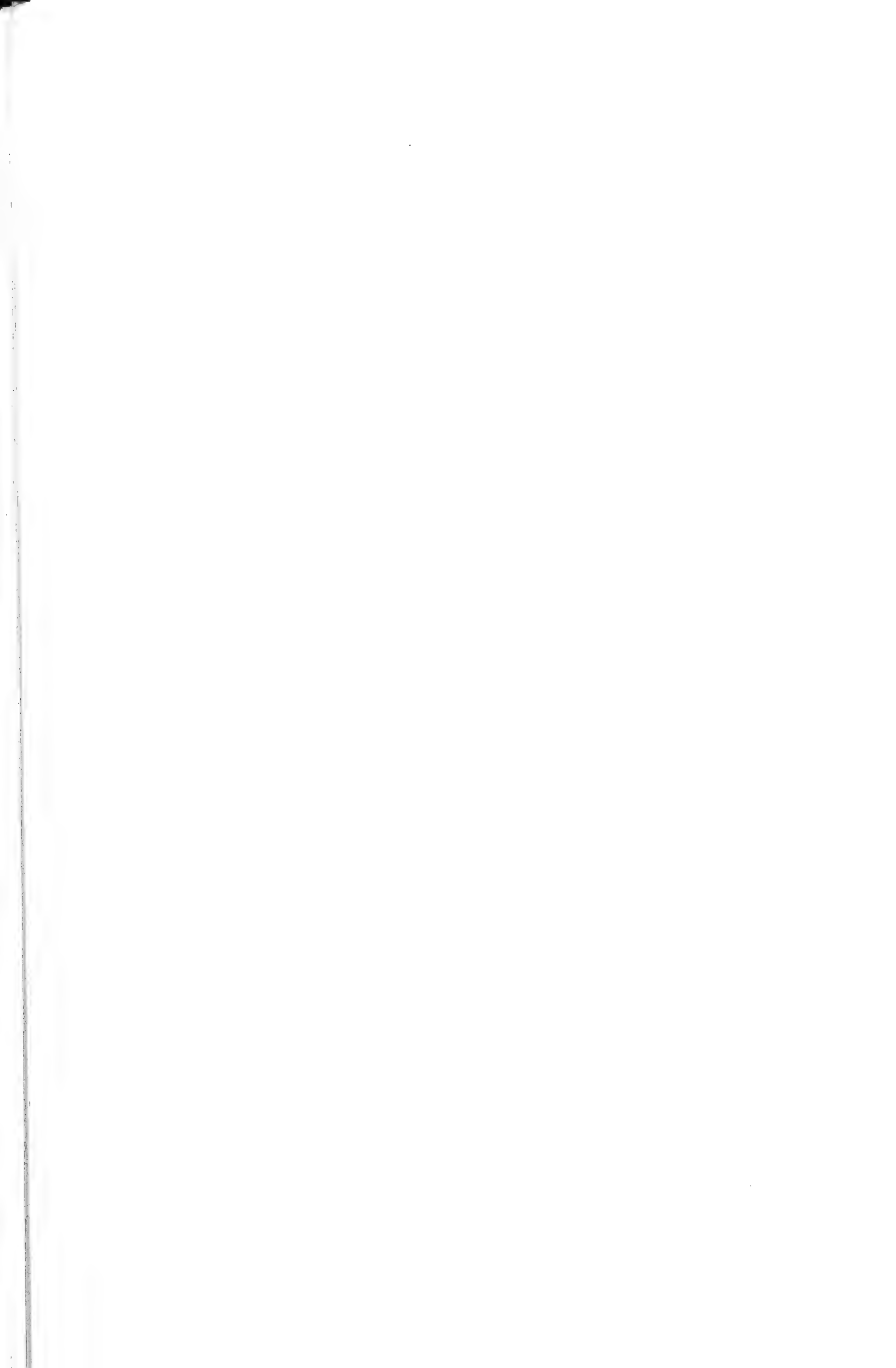
471. ? *Atriplex* — common under-  
shrub in mesquite brushland.

472. dark green leaves, pinnate,  
kept closed; bark dark grey with whitish lichens  
overall aspect from distance resembles juniper.  
(shrub, low spreading — to 5 ft.)

473 ? *Diospyros*

undershrub of mesquite occasionally growing  
alone (one 6" diameter at base)

All the above growing on somewhat sandy  
soil — mesquite trees up to 18 ft. apparent  
dominant.



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15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

February 13

- 474 *Opuntia* spreading bush to 4 ft. high  
fruits bright red
475. *Berberis trifoliatum* - spreading shrub often  
growing in center of a mesquite shrub or  
thicket
476. leafless, green-stemmed  
shrub

All the above plants growing on top of a gravelly  
ridge about 4 miles S of the Colorado River. Mesquite-  
dominated brushland the principal cover. Soil shallow.

3 mi. ESE Del Valle, 400 ft., Travis Co., Texas

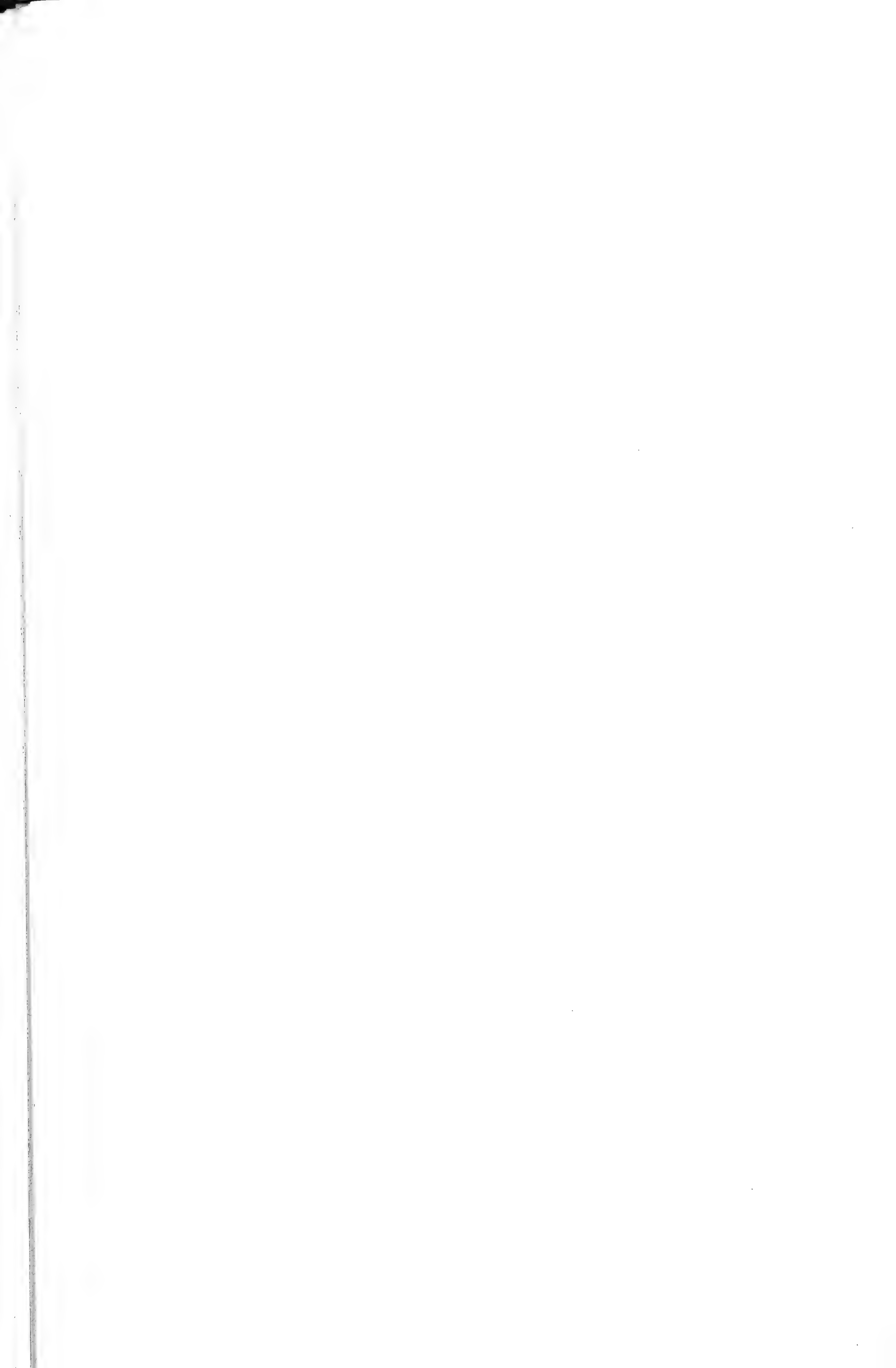
February 11

- 477 *Juniperus* growing with  
deciduous *Quercus* spp. and small *Ulmus*  
(*crassifolia*?) on gravelly ridge S of Colorado  
River.

17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

Feb 18

- 478 *Juniperus* growing on "bench" above  
Palo Duro Canyon tributary - grasses, mesquite,  
catclaw - all scattered (white outcrops  
on bluff higher = limestone?)
479. shrub growing with 478  
(= 476?)



K Dixon  
1952

## Plant Catalogue

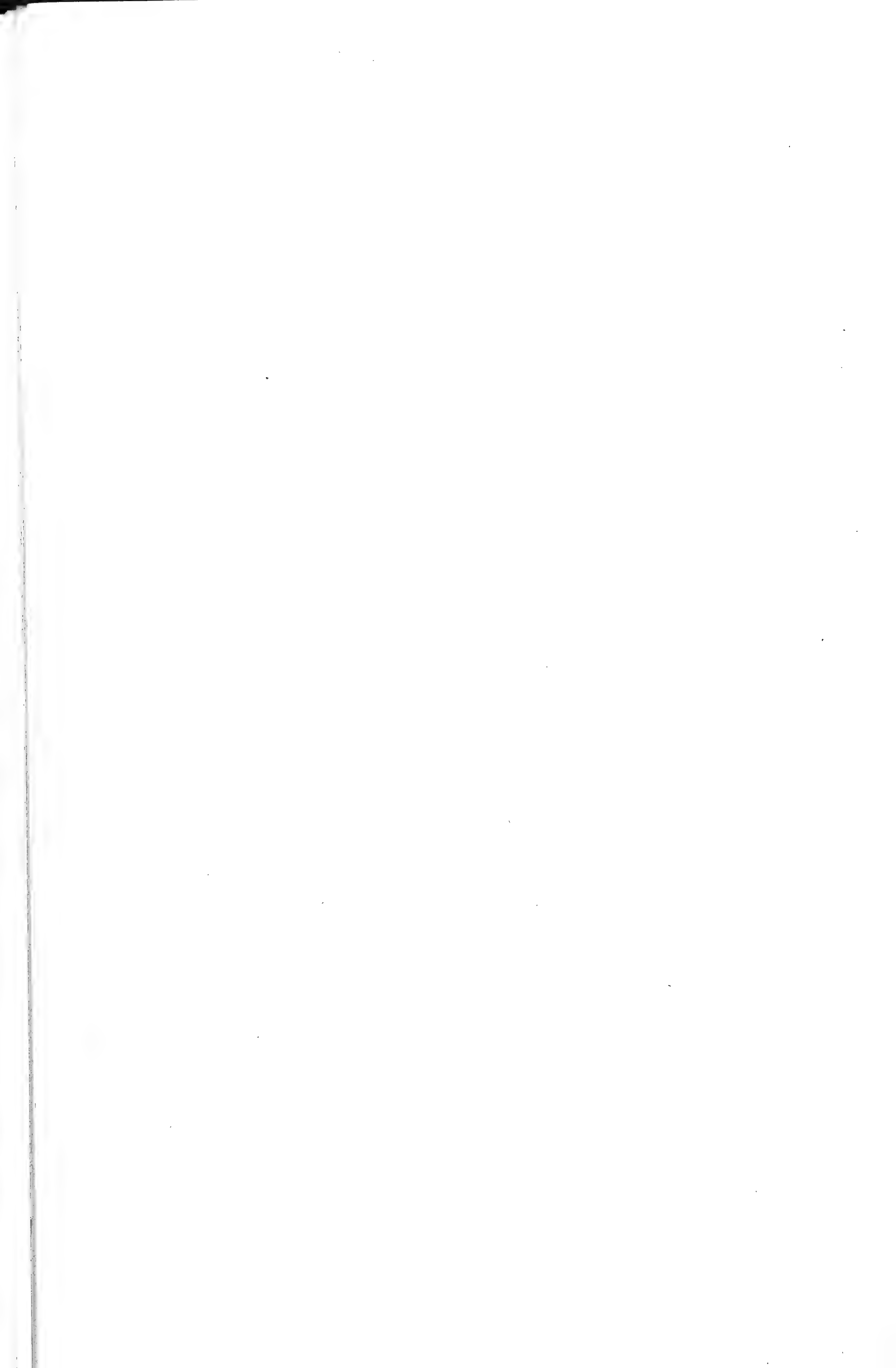
17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

February 18

480. Juniperus

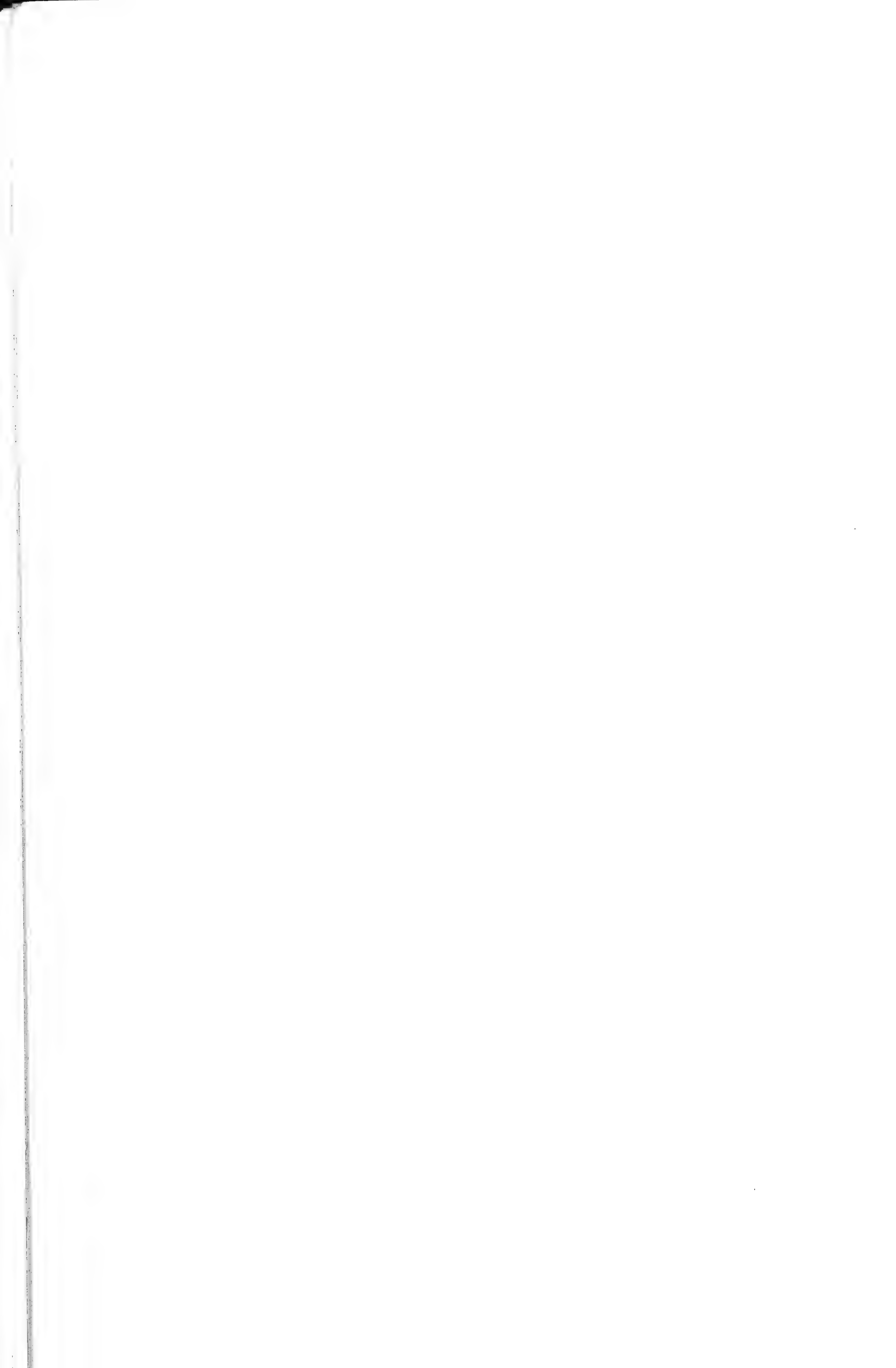
berries blue—<sup>growing</sup>

along slope beside streamcourse, well protected  
by this canyon wall from winds sweeping  
terrace above canyon. — soil? limestone  
Cottonwoods and Rhus trilobata  
growing nearby.





Journal

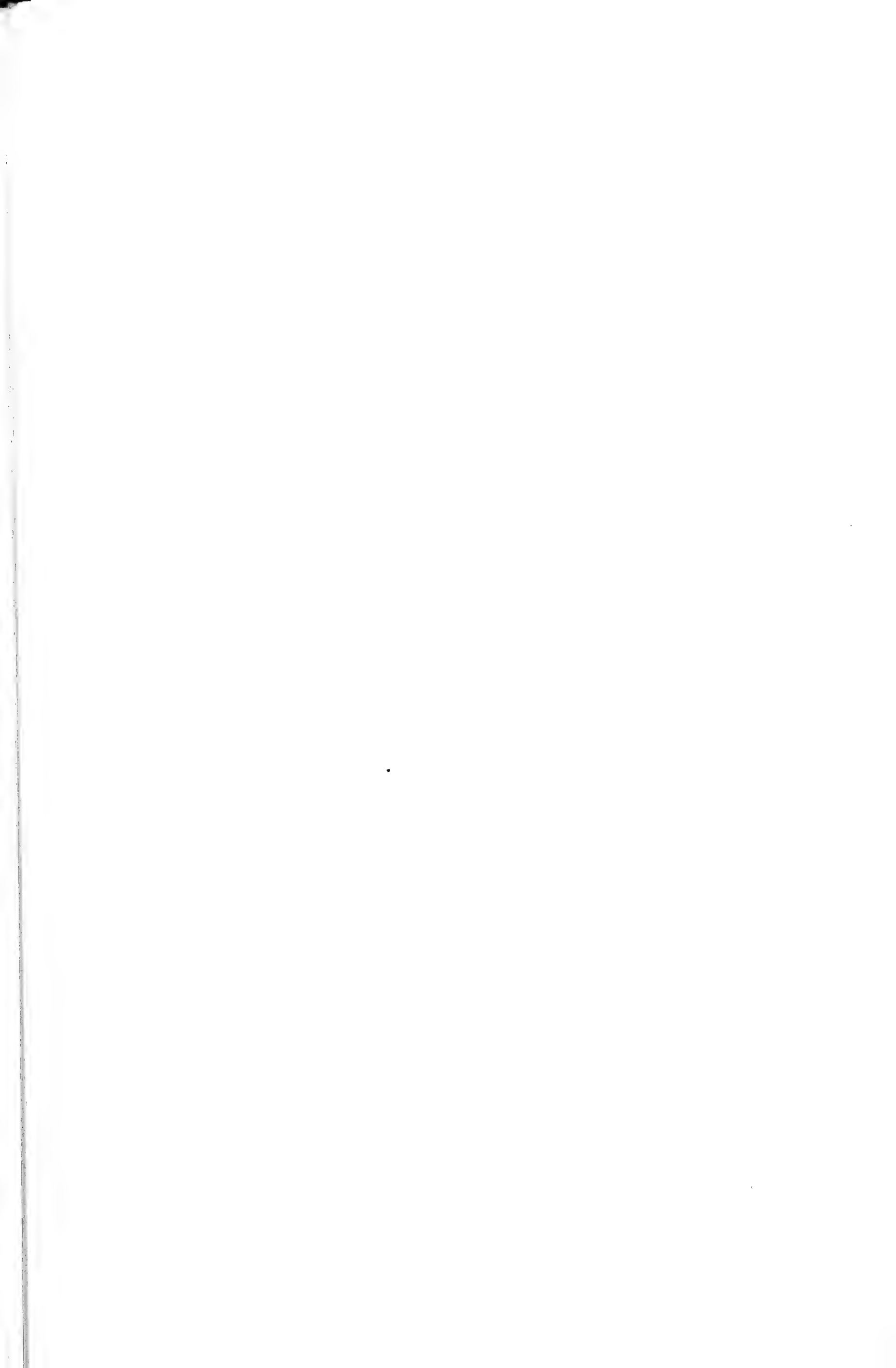


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Journal

Jan. 26 En route Berkeley, Calif. to Atascosa Co., Texas. A. H. Miller and I left Berkeley about 8:00 a.m., after a delay in obtaining a jack which I had forgotten to provide. Cloudy; streets wet but no rain. We proceeded via Walnut Creek and Dublin to Tracy and Modesto. Waters high after recent heavy rains but roads entirely passable. We drove down Hwy 99 to Bakersfield, <sup>(dinner at Fresno)</sup> over Tehachapi Pass (snow never as low as elevation of road) to Mojave. WEATHER CLEAR beyond this point. We proceeded to Barstow, reaching there ~~about~~ 6:00 p.m. We pushed a nose the descent to Needles and camped in a dry wash 20 miles or so farther south.

Jan 27. We started at dawn, noting few birds in scrub flats or ironwood - smoke tree grown washes. Breakfast at Parker Jct., Calif., then a E to Escondido and a nose the Colorado River to Parker. From there we drove via Hope & Wickenburg to Phoenix (12:30). On to Mesa, south to Casa Grande and E via Pinal Co. Near Marana on Hwy 80, a flock of Brewer Blackbirds with at least 3 ♂♂ plumage yellow-headed Blackbirds in mesquite blade railway. Other Brewers near rippled fields. Only one flock of Calamospiza. We drove via Tucson and Benson, reaching Wilcox after dark. After dinner we continued through horsetoeing New Mexico and Deming, stopping for the night some 20 miles beyond Deming.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Jan 28. En route, Berkeley to Atascosa Co., Texas - We broke camp in grassland - Voliva plain in sub-freezing temperature (clear, dry) and started E again. Marsh Hawk seen foraging flight over grassland. Three Spaced Quail crossed road in sandy area where mesquite clumps were growing on sand hillsides. White-necked Ravens seen in open country (all range, all fenced); at one place, group of about 8 seen on ground, rather noisy. One picked up on road 8 mi W Las Cruces. In Las Cruces, Dona Ana Co., N. Mex one Great-tailed Grackle seen perched atop leafless tree giving a grating note.

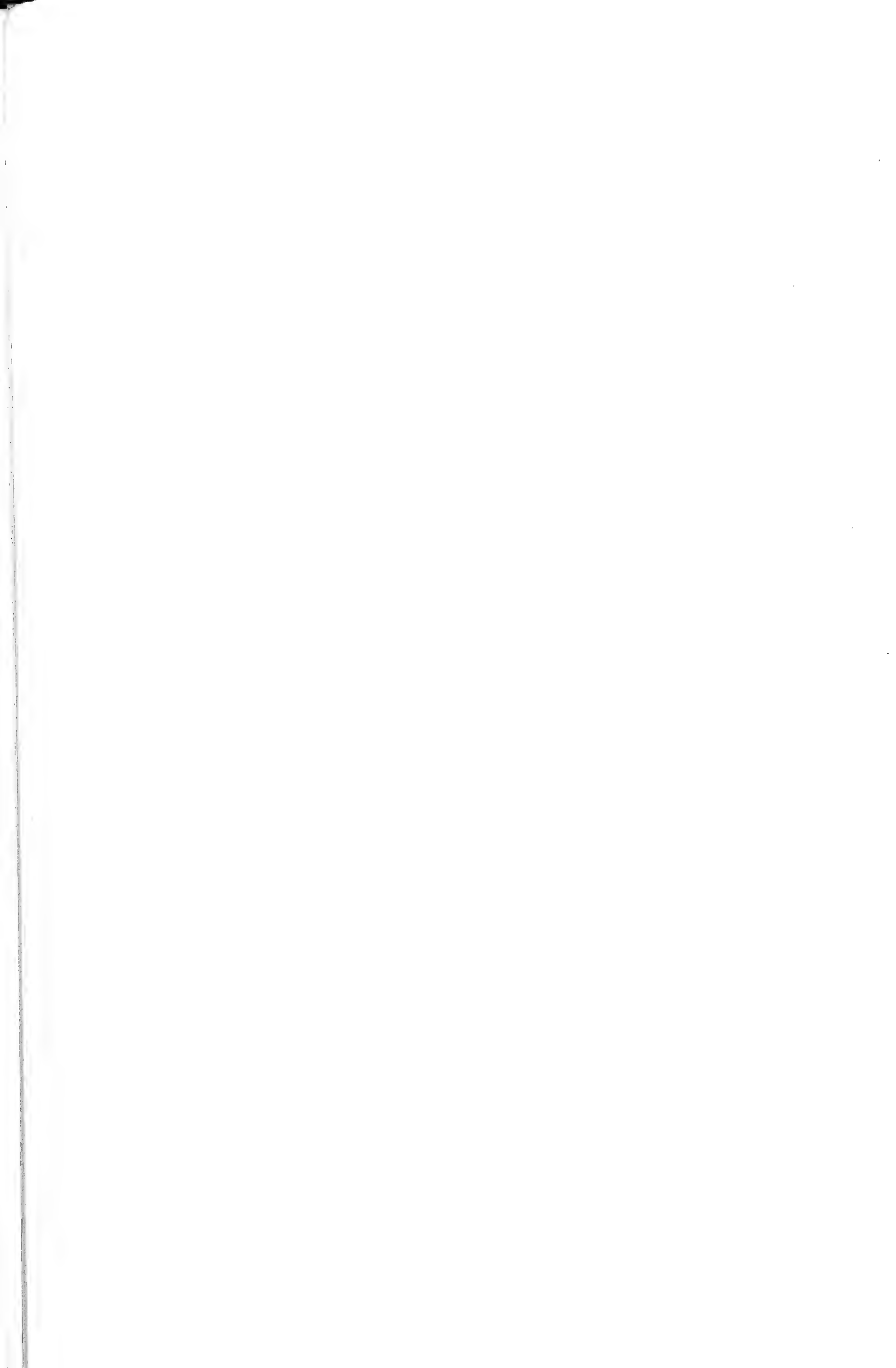
We drove south thru El Paso and continued on Hwy 80. Lunch in Van Horn; from there south on U.S. 90. Horned Owl dead on road 9 mi. NW Valentine and another 1 mi NW Valentine, Co., Texas (there had been a third W of Van Horn - all had been rained on - rain Sat. night here). Our route led thru Alpine to Marathon. Continuing E, I watched distribution of junipers. Somewhat stunted growth perhaps 8 ft tall occurred E to 18 mi E Marathon, elev. 4300 ft and sparingly beyond. Mesquite in bottoms. This might serve as an avenue for ~~mouse~~ dispersed but does not appear habitable. 13 mi E Marathon, Brewster Co. we saw 28 Pronghorns in a loose flock on W-facing slope near hwy - juniper growth here. Across the canyon, 5+ mule Deer in denser growth.



K Dixon  
1952

Jan 28. En route, Berkeley, Calif., to Atascosa Co., Texas  
Darkness overtook us in Sanderson Canyon and we  
proceeded to a point a few miles SE Shumla, Val Verde  
Co., Texas, where we stopped for the night. Horned larks  
common here near Rio Grande ~~river~~ cliffs.

Jan. 29. We rolled out at dawn and drove to Del Rio for break-  
fast, thence E toward San Antonio. Few hawks seen  
en route and more live oak along small stream courses  
than I had remembered. One colubrid on road 16 mi  
~~west of~~ <sup>W of</sup> Hondo — see Miller's notes. After lunch and  
provisioning at Hondo, we drove SE through Devine.  
12 mi N of Devine, Medina Co., Texas — growth of  
deciduous oak timber in broad strip along N bank of  
a creek here. — Also on outskirts of Devine  
where blackjack oak with <sup>dead</sup> leaves attached seen.  
11 mi NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas.  
We arrived at the Ed Eisenhower ranch property  
about 2:00 p.m. and drove down into brush to locate  
Mr. Eisenhower. We found only his workman (of Polish  
descent) who spoke little English. He was burning  
prickly pear cactus (to remove spines so cattle  
could feed on it we found later). We spent about  
2 hours looking for Mr. Eisenhower, then decided  
to go to Jourdanton to telephone him. I saw a lizard  
along the shoulder of the paved road and captured  
it by hand shortly before 5:00 p.m. — (#650) The  
Cnemidophorus appeared to have been exposed by  
grading of the roadside which had been in progress





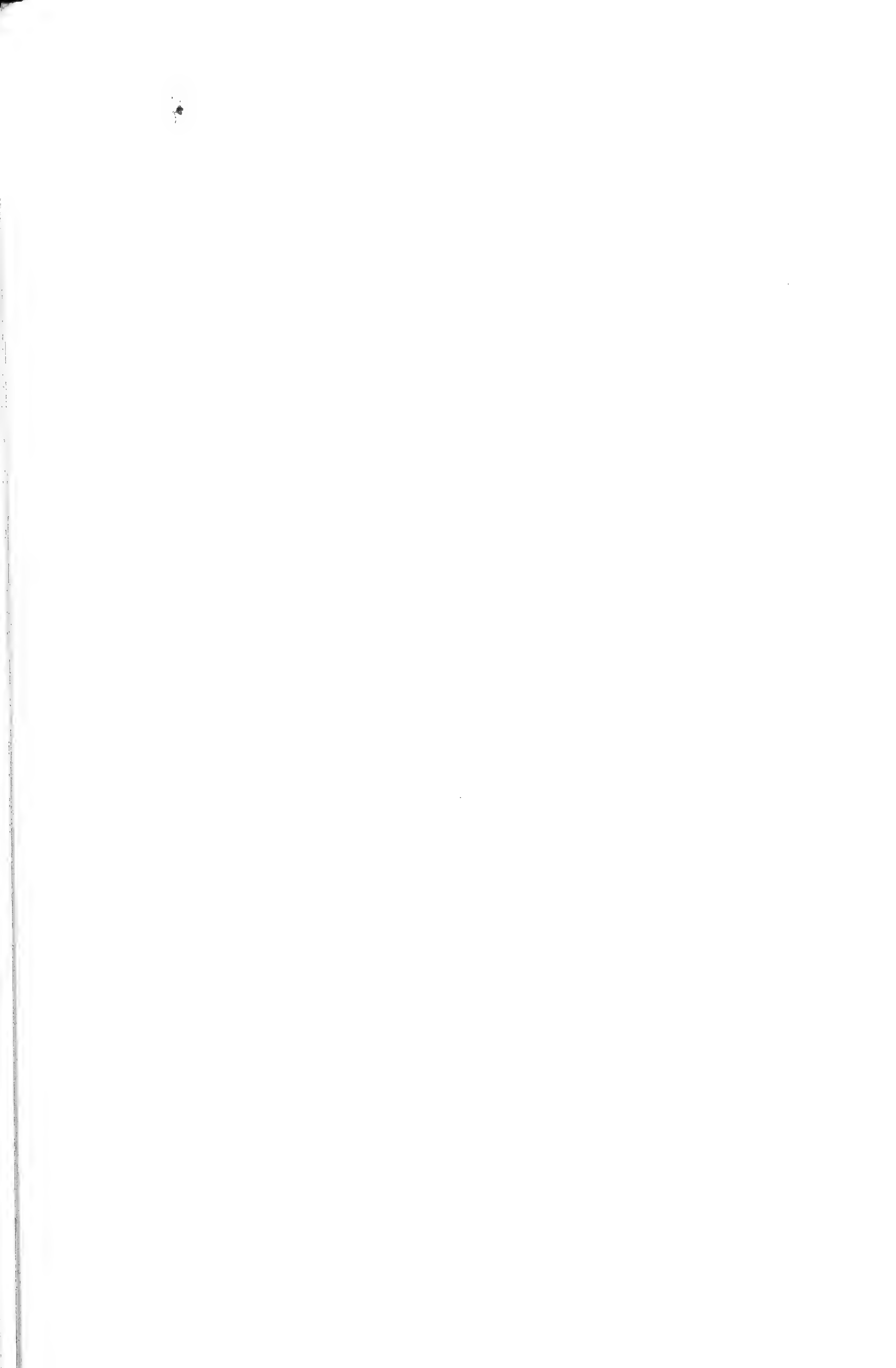
K Dixon  
1952

Jan 29. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
during the afternoon. We drove to Jourdanton  
and obtained permission to camp on the ranch, then  
returned to cook dinner [ground Dove in Jourdanton]

Jan 30. Dawn about 6:00 - slightly cloudy, calm. Horned Owls  
active in mesquite "timber" exchanging calls - one  
perched about 50 yards from where we preparing our meal.  
Each time it gave the "who who-who-hu", the owl  
leaned forward almost to horizontal position with  
tail slightly elevated. Is this necessary for mechanism  
of sound production or a display pose? Twice when owls  
called from nearby, Dr Miller imitated them but each  
time the owls looked over toward us and flew away.

Sunrise at 7:20. I left camp and worked thru  
dense mesquite growth (undershrubs closely-spaced)  
E toward the road. I took a pair of Golden-fronted  
Woodpeckers (see spec. acc't) and watched a titmouse.  
Light not exceptional although some birds in song.  
I crossed road at 8:00 and worked in that "pasture"  
until 9:15. Underbrush was thinner here and  
mesquites generally of lesser stature. Few live oaks  
scattered through. Birds less abundant, chiefly  
titmouse, Centurus hadder-blk. W. phr., Bewick Wren  
Cardinal, Field Sparrow, Spotted Towhee.

Crossing the road I worked thru the dense brush  
again - took Centurus ♀ (#555) seemingly alone.  
Black-throated Sparrows here in dense brush  
showing considerable white in tail as they flew.



K Dixon  
1952

Jan 30. 11 mi. NWourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas.  
On two occasions I saw Amphispiza "complex" and took a  
♂ (#651) from one. Paired?

In brush along ~~road~~<sup>driveway</sup> (belt from which mesquite had  
been removed) Black-throated Sparrow, Pyrreuloxia,  
Mockingbird, Cardinal found. I took a Curve-billed  
Thrasher from a thicket of lead-pencil cactus and  
in this area.

About 10:30, Ed Eisenhower and his brother Fred  
arrived. We had extended conversation with them  
for the next 3 hours, broken by their work program.  
Ed Eisenhower told me that his father had bought  
the land about 1904 and at that time they had one  
well for 3200 acres. A wagon could be driven almost  
anywhere with ease in contrast to the brush-  
choked pastures of the present. Today there are six  
wells on the same area and some had to be drilled  
deeper last year although the maximum well  
depth is about 280 feet. Quail appear to fluctuate  
in numbers, being low at present. Deer appear to  
be nearly extinct locally because of poaching.

After 5 inches of rain in September, there has been  
little during fall and winter. Cattle need to be  
fed to supplement the food made available by searing  
the Opuntia.

At sunset, I found a small frog (Acris) floating  
belly-up but alive in a pond near the windmill. None  
seen otherwise. Saved as #658



K. Dixon  
1952

Journal

Jan. 31 11 mi. NW Sourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas.

OVERCAST, calm. Sun shining, WIND from E after 9:00, from S after 10:00 am. I worked in area E of road near windmill where I was yesterday, 8:05 - 11:30. (See acc't for Parus atricristatus). One Spotted Towhee seen again today; several Ruby-throated Kinglets.

Vegetation of this area has a dormant aspect. Arboreal mesquites are leafless as are the few elms along streamcourse. Shrubby mesquite plants may be out in leaf as are a number of shrub species. Insects seem generally active: dragon flies, ant-lion larvae (pile), a variety of moths and small butterflies all appear to be common. NO Reptile activity noted, however. Titmice may be heard singing persistently; Bewick Wren likewise; Cardinals and Black-throated Sparrows less so.

I spent the time from 3:00 - 5:30 pm in the same area checking distribution of titmouse individuals and pairs and making a line transect of the vegetation. See acc't for Parus. About 3:30 in a clearing  $\pm$  40 ft across, with clumps of Opuntia scattered, I saw a loose flock of sparrows including Field and Black-throated and a bird with much white on wing coverts and ventrally, probably a longspur. CLOUDY all afternoon

Feb. 1 LOW FOG; CALM. (clear overhead). WINDY after 10:00 a.m. I worked in titmouse study area from 7:45 - 11:05. See acc't for Parus atricristatus.

I prepared a skin of a ♀ Neotoma micropus which was caught in a trap I set under a corner of the bunkhouse and which was retrieved crawling



KDixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb. 1 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
under the house during the wee hours of the day by Dr.  
Miller (KLD 668)

During the late afternoon I took 3 cricket frogs  
at the edge of a pond overflowing from the windmill. At  
noon, these frogs had been active, a chorus of calls  
ek ek ek having been heard.

Bird list for the locality, Jan. 30 - Feb. 2.

Turkey Vulture	Black-nested Titmouse
Red-tailed Hawk	Bewick Wren
Harris Hawk	Mockingbird
Sparrow Hawk	* Curve-billed Thrasher
Killdeer	Ruby-cr. Kinglet
* Inca Dove	* Loggerhead Shrike
Mourning Dove	* Western Meadowlark
* Roadrunner	Cardinal
Horned Owl	* Pyrrhuloxia
Flicker heard	Lark Sparrow
Golden-fronted Wpkr	* Black-throated Sparrow
ladder-bld. Wdphr	Field Sparrow
	Vesper Sparrow

\* (= not found in area represented by vegetation transect) ——— longspur

(See A. H. Miller's notes for birds taken by him and not seen  
by me; eg: Sennott Thrasher, Verdin)

Feb 2. While studying titmice, I flushed a Mourning Dove  
from a nest about 6 ft. up in a mesquite; at least  
one egg. Bird flapped about on ground moving away from me.





K Dixon

1952

Journal

Feb. 2. Atascosa County to Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas.

Windy during morning as we prepared to break camp. I spent the period 7:45-8:55 watching titmice; see species account. Before leaving the area, we talked with Homer W. Phillips and Tom Kennerley, zool. graduate students from University of Texas. They had set 29 live-traps for Neotoma the evening before and had caught only 7 animals. They indicated that this winter had been a mild one.

We broke camp before 10:00 am. and drove to the junction of hwy. 346 and 173, about a mile NW Jordan-  
ton. Here we turned NE on 346, driving toward San Antonio.  
(On Hwy. 173, 2.5 mi. NW of the junction, I had noted a few postoaks and black-jack oaks along the road).

At a point 2.4 miles SW of Poteet, Atascosa Co., we noted an area of extensive live oak growth. From 2.8 mi. NE Poteet to 3.3, blackjack encountered in an E-W strip bisected by hwy. At 4.5 mi. NE Poteet, blackjack again. At 5.1 mi., Starlings ( $\pm 6$ ) seen beside road. Broad westward-extending tongue of ~~deciduous~~ (and some live) oaks on sandy soil from 5.5 mi NE to 11.5 mi. NE Poteet. NE of that strip, few scattered deciduous oaks, then cultivation and mesquite. We drove into San Antonio, bought provisions and had truck serviced, ate lunch and headed E out of San Antonio. After a brief visit with Mrs. Ed Eisenhower at their ranch home near Converse, we proceeded toward Seguin.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

### Feb 2. Atascosa County to Bastrop County, Texas

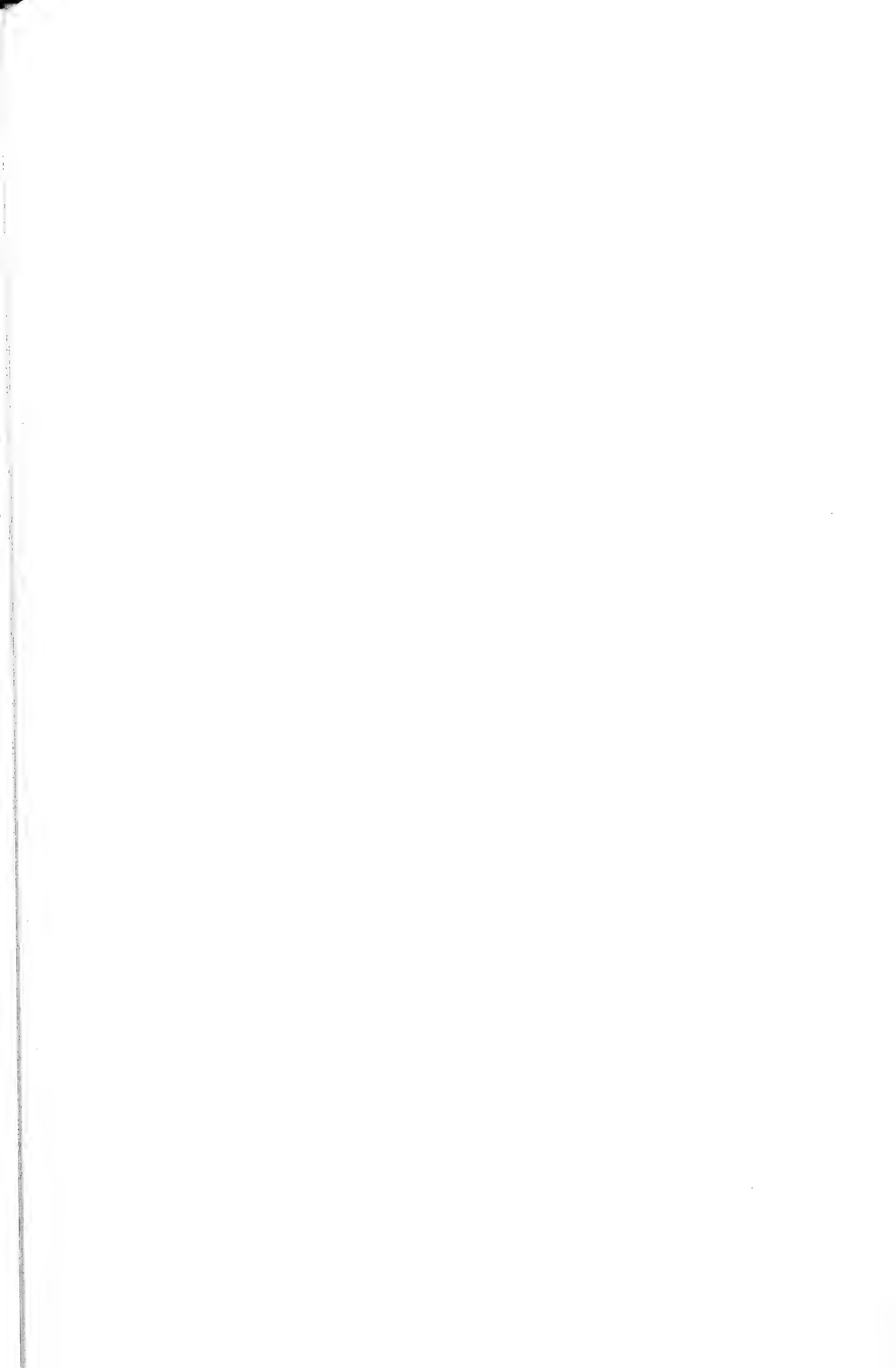
Driving NE out of Seguin, I noted the first black-jack oaks in the uplands approx. 3 miles NE of the Town on U.S. Hgwy. 90. After a point  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles beyond that point, deciduous oaks were the prominent cover.

[Kingsbury, Guadalupe Co., Texas.] - snake (KLP 669) picked up on W edge of town on shoulder of road - cultivated fields in area.

At Kingsbury, we turned N on State Hgwy 29, then onto farm roads 86 and 20 heading toward Bastrop. Area N of Kingsbury had some mesquite growth, but somewhat stunted deciduous oaks the chief cover over most of the route.

We reached Bastrop about 4:00 p.m., called for mail and then tried to locate the County Agent (Agriculture Extension) Mr. D. B. McCombs. We eventually caught him at his home as he returned from an afternoon of crow-hunting. He had contacted Mr. A. Young of Smithville and had obtained tentative permission for us to hunt on Young's property in the western part of the county.

We drove to the area 15 miles W of Bastrop where I had hunted last April and called on Mr. Ed Schanbale who lived on the N side of the road bounding Young's land to the north. Schanbale readily granted us permission to pitch a tent on the property near his barn so we made camp for the night.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 3. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

The vegetation of this area is mesquite brushland of slightly different character than in Atascosa Co.

The mesquites appear to be spaced more closely and under shrubs are clumped rather than tending toward continuous coverage. The spaces in between the clumps of shrub growth (chiefly Berberis trifoliata and lead-pencil cactus) are grass covered for the most part. In some areas, as along brooks and swales, there are stands of Ulmus crassifolia ("cedar elm"). There are scattered junipers and a few other trees. Grazing appears to vary from light to heavy. Some prickly-pear has been burned out (presumably for cattle food).

WIND STRONG from westerly directions during hours after midnight and on into day. Dust in air dimmed sun most of day. Some clouds passed overhead in late afternoon.

I left camp about 8:30 proceeding S onto Mr. Young's land and the Mayhaw Creek drainage. See Etienne account for route followed.

I saw one tree squirrel on mesquite branch "frozen" in rigid position as I walked past. One other in elm woods along brook. Black-tailed jackrabbit and cottontail both flushed, latter appearing less numerous than in Atascosa Co. One large lizard apparently Sceloporus on trunk of small elm in mesquite area about 10:00

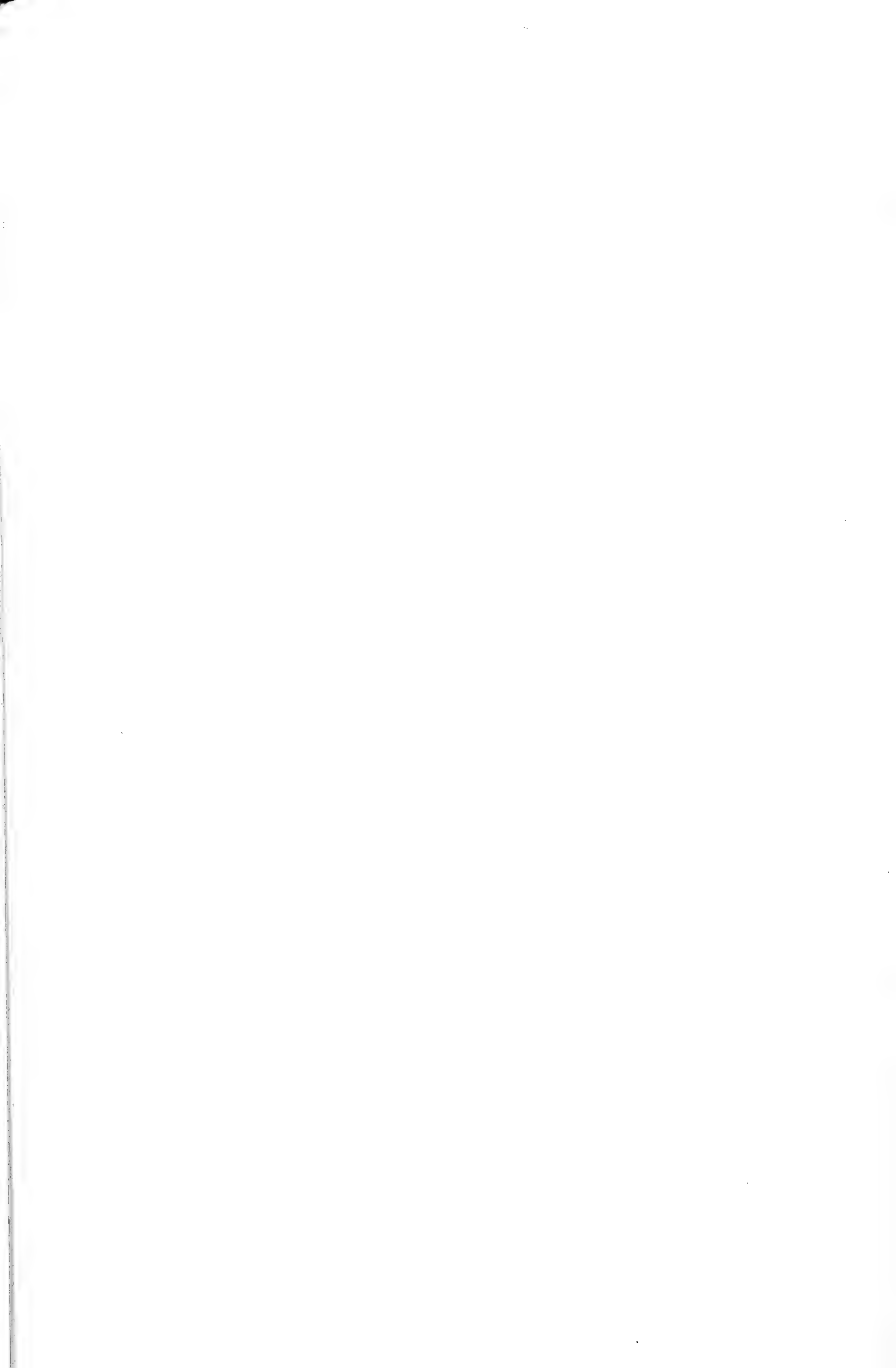


Feb 3. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas - I was gone from camp 8:30 - 12:00 and 1:00 - 2:20 p.m. (see bird list).

Feb 4. I left camp about 7:45 a.m. and spent early part of morning watching turtles. At 8:20, along brook above dam, I saw a ♀-plumaged Cardinal singing from a horizontal branch; as she did so, she flicked tail and appeared to have head cocked to one side at one time. (I was rather excited and did not record exactly the song given). This bird flew N accompanied by 2 ♂-plumaged Cardinals - I took her with a long shot (♀, 673). Earlier I noted a Fox Sparrow and squeaked; a Harrier Sparrow appeared instead and I took it (675). I saw a pair of Carolina Wrens on a slope N of brook and followed them about 20 yards. Then I paused and squeaked; the ♂ came back and I took him (676). Near the dam, I found part of the skeleton of a Gray Fox; the skull and mandible were good and I saved them. The skin of the dorsal surface of the cranium was gone in such a fashion that I considered that the ears and scalp may have been removed for bounty.

I found the skull and scattered bones of a Striped Skunk (Mephitis); skull not saved. Later, the skull of a house cat was found in the woods.

I returned to camp at 12:25 and left at 1:30 for about 2 hours spent mapping area along brook.





K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas. BIRD LIST, FEB. 3-5.

Blue Heron — one overhead in evening

Turkey Vulture

Caracara — seen overhead at various times. One  
flew downwind, late afternoon, Feb. 5, giving a  
snarling note like exhaust of small motorboat.

Killdeer — heard near camp

Barred Owl — flushed in woods in daytime, twice from  
low heights, possibly clumps of Berberis

Horned Owl — started calls at 5:30 Feb 5

Black Vulture — 2 Feb 4, perched in elms

Colaptes auratus — noted occasionally in elms.

Red-shafted Flicker — primaries on ground in elms

Ladder-backed Woodpecker — common, usually wary — in  
mesquites and elms both

Red-bellied Woodpecker — one flew overhead giving  
check note Feb 5.

Crow — seen flying overhead

Tufted Titmouse — see spec. acc't

Carolina Chickadee — " "

Creeper — one seen foraging in elms Feb 4

Bewick Wren — widespread; singing — paired

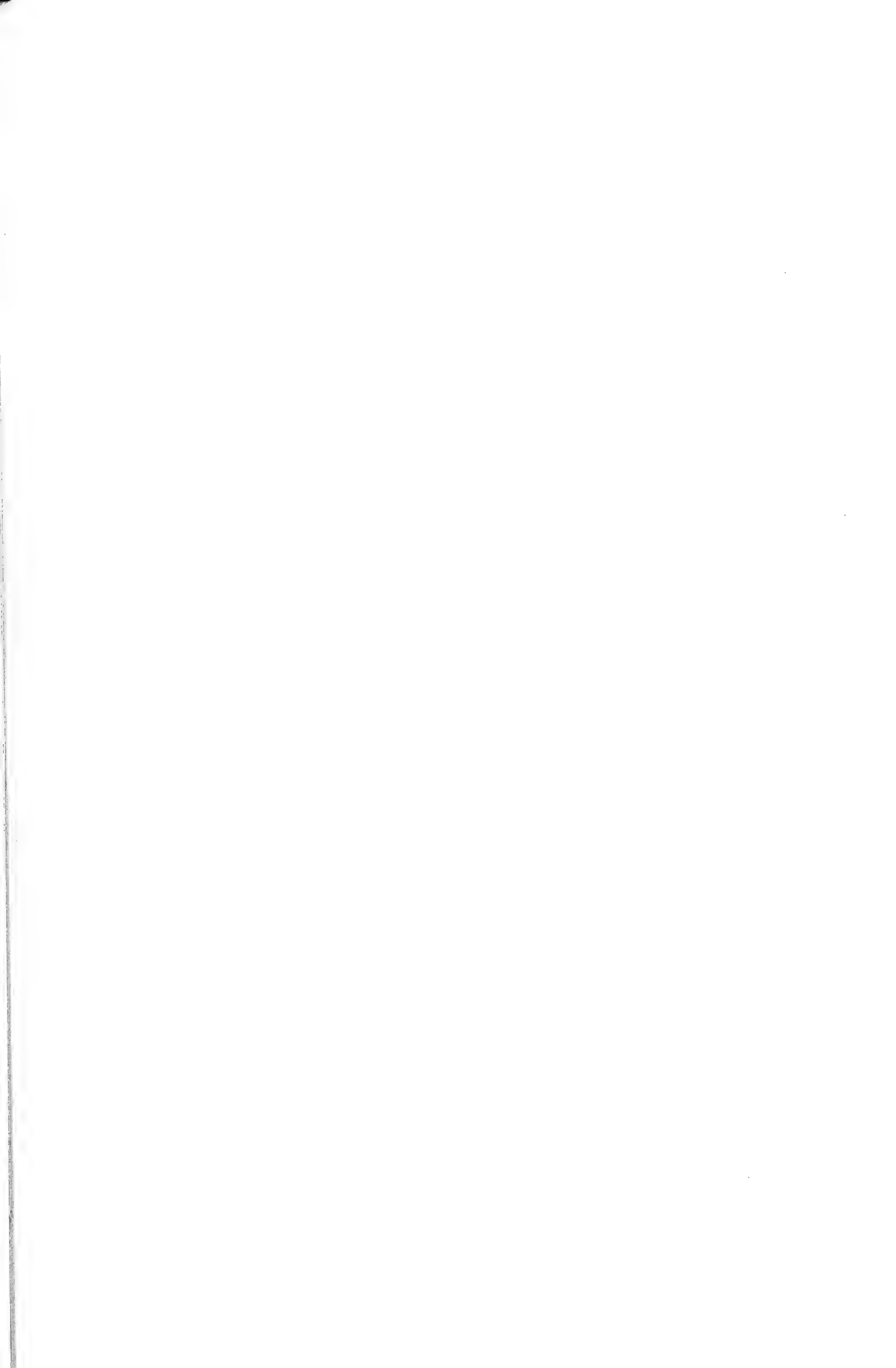
Carolina Wren — one pair seen

Brown Thrasher — one in brush Feb 3

Mockingbird

Robin — infrequent

Eastern Bluebird — paired, hanging around  
dead trees; ♂♂ solicitors of ♀♀



K. Dixon  
1952

## Journal

15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co. Texas

Bird list Feb 3-5.

Golden-crowned Kinglet - common in elms

Ruby-crowned Kinglet - appears more widespread than former

Myrtle Warbler - frequently seen in elms, usually singles  
in mixed flocks.

Cardinal - common, some paired; on Feb 4, 2 ♂♂

travelling with 1 ♀ seen on different occasions twice.

At sunset, Feb. 5, fight involving ♂ vs. ♂ and

♀ vs ♀; clucks and squawks hopdortyx-like.

Spotted Towhee - infrequent, usually solitary

Field Sparrow - common, chiefly in elms, always in  
company, of their species or mixed flock.

White-crowned Sparrow - abundant - singing

White-throated Sparrow - one seen with white-crowns

Harris Sparrow - 1 taken

Fox Sparrow - one seen - ventral markings brown

Western Meadowlark - one taken out of flock of 12

sharp beek the only note heard.

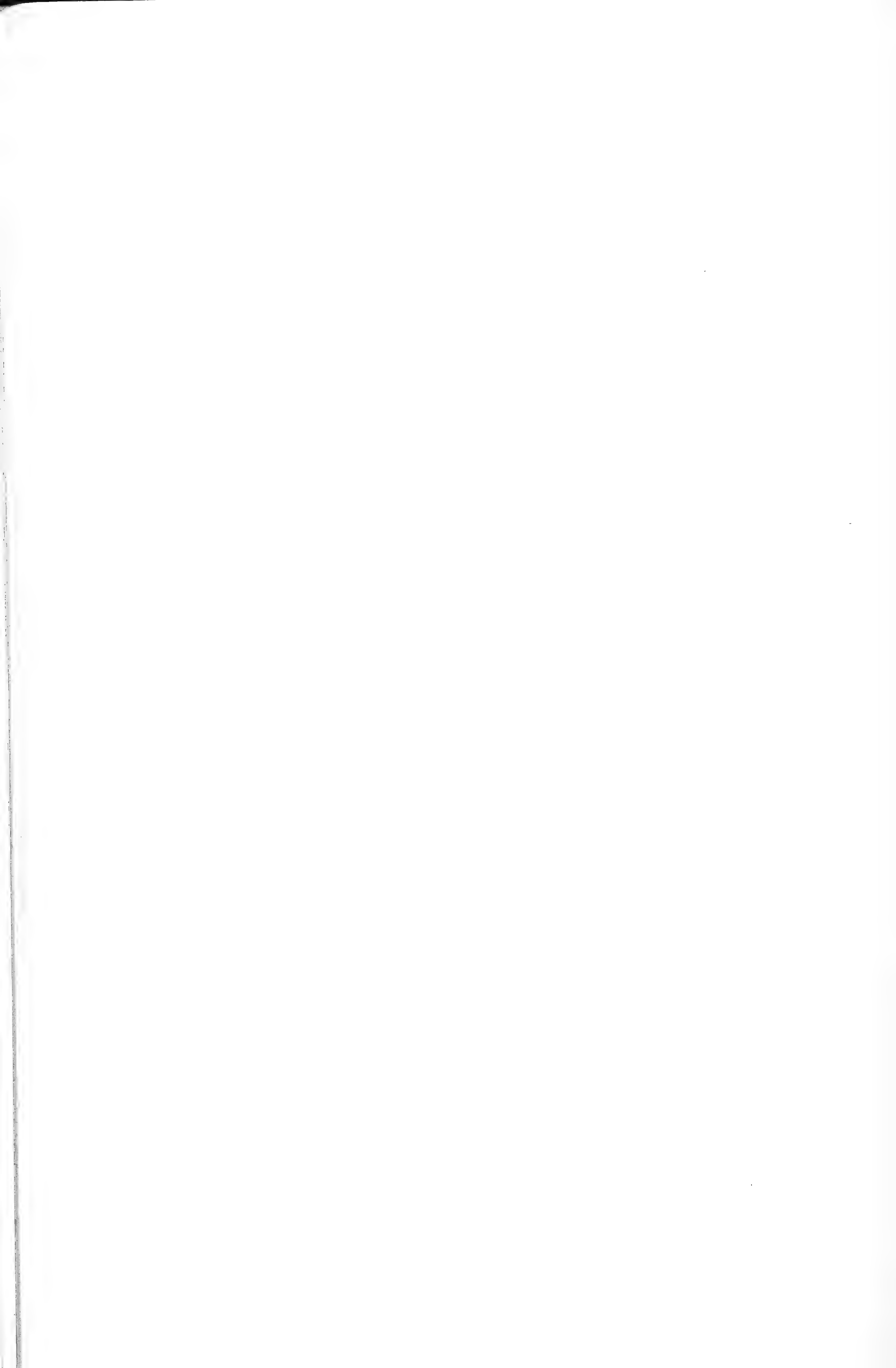
Feb 5. CALM in early morning - sun rose about 7:20 am.

Dr. Miller and I proceeded parallel down slope toward  
creek in hope of flushing a Barned Owl - no success.

Creek reached at 7:58 after which I concerned  
myself with following advice. About 10:45, I worked

up slope along road, taking meadowlark, Bewick  
Wren along way and one Dendroicae scalaris

(684) in mesquites nearer camp. I reached  
camp about 11:30 and spent noon hour writing notes.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 5. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

I returned to elm bottomland 4:40 - 6:20 (there (5:00 - 5:45 only). See Atmore acc't. I salvaged an incomplete but cleaned skeleton of an armadillo (Dendrocopos scalaris (683) taken in elms near dam.) (685.) in clearing near elm bottomland.)

Feb 6. I worked on ~~timber~~ in area upstream from road, 8:20 - 11:20 (see species account). (Brown-headed Cowbird pair in mesquite-elm S of Schanhal's house at 8:10). About 9:30 I was in elm grove to W of dam and near S fence. I heard "check" note and saw Red-bellied Woodpecker. I fired at it and drew feathers; it flew E into grove. I came upon a woodpecker of that species and took it (♂, 688). Whether or not it was the first one seen, I cannot say (that bird was perched facing me and I couldn't see crown).

Creepers seen working along creek while I stalked ~~timber~~

Loggerhead Shrike - one in mesquite clearing

Phoebe - one along brook

Slate-colored Junco - flock in elm woods downstream.

Eastern Bluebird - 2 pairs having fight; when

first seen, 3 birds involved in chase above elm tops.

Dispute soon drawn about dead tree in open area, a low mesquite where I had noticed Bluebirds before.

The ♂ of the W pair (residents I had seen in area)

gave notes as guttural as a bluebird probably can, chiefly of one syllable, and others more melodious.

♂ fluttered wings although other pair  $\pm$  30 ft distant. ♀ chimed in with single piping notes <sup>higher</sup> pitched.



# Journal

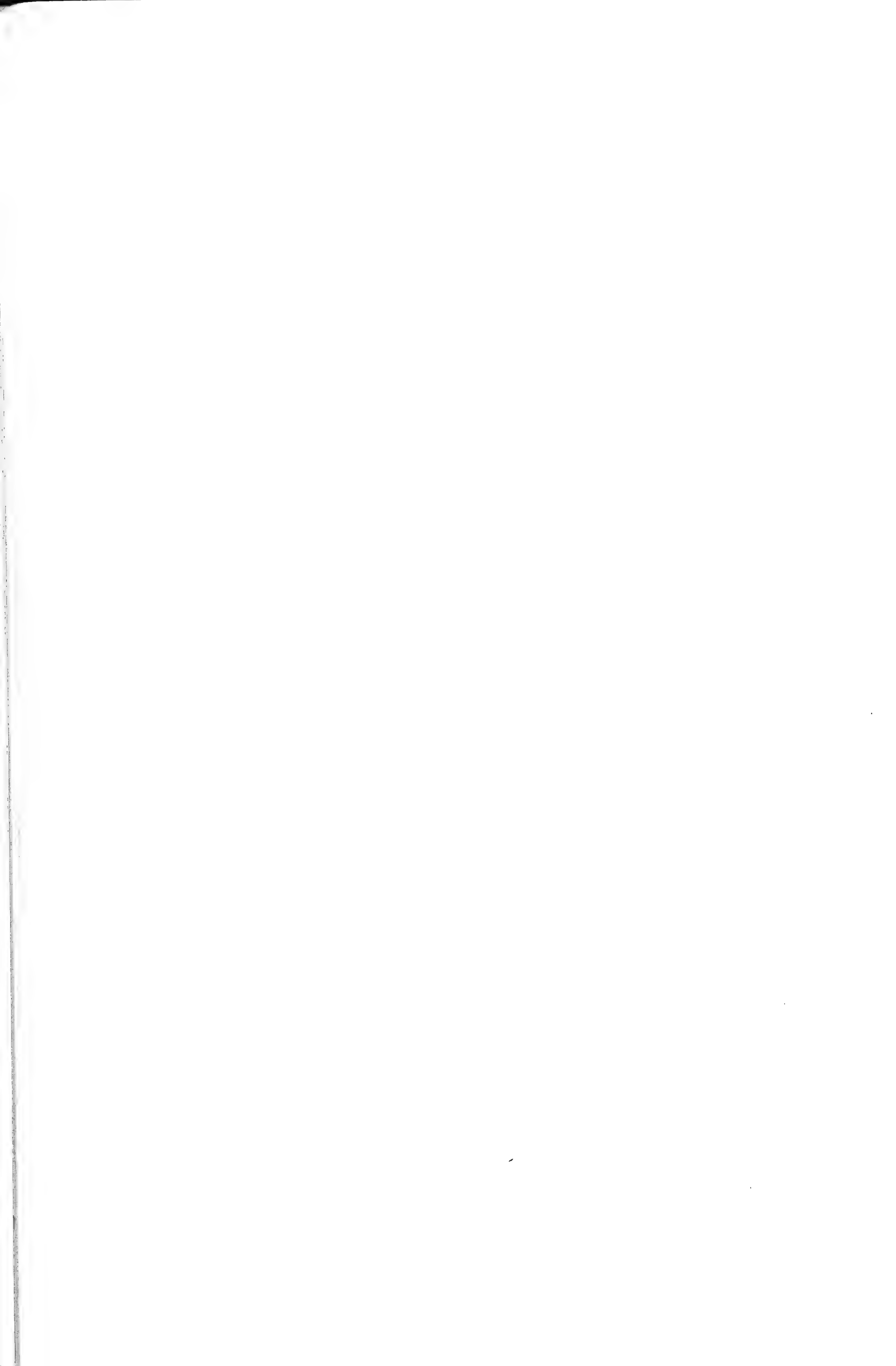
Feb 6. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

I spent the period from 11:30 - 12:30 with A. H. Miller in areas downstream, checking sites where he had taken tamias. Windy OVERCAST. On our way back to camp, I heard a rustling noise and saw a lizard disappear into a hollow stump - Sceloporus?

I returned to elm bottomland 3:45 - 5:45 to map and observe <sup>in</sup> tamias areas, returning at 6:05 p.m. On the way, N of telephone line clearing, I saw a Verdin and fired at it but not successfully. Bird kept calling but was wary so I abandoned chase. At this time I saw another lizard enter a hollow stump. Cedar Waxwing flock  $\pm 6$  flew over in late afternoon. I saw an Armadillo in mesquite - Berberis brush. This mammal moved at a trot, pausing and then resuming this casual gait when it noticed that I was walking behind it.

Feb 7. 1 1/2 mi. S Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas. - We reached this area along Onion Creek E of Bergstrom Field (Air Force) about 8:20 a.m. SUNNY; CALM; FROST on ground. See tamias account for details. In first 1/2 hour I noted the following birds: Song Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Blue Jay, Bewick Wren, Carolina Wren (singing) Carolina Chickadee, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Cardinal. (Hence wren seen 9:30)

Red-bellied Woodpecker - rolling turr-r-r-it of ♂ answered from across the elm grove. ♂ excavating cavity in elm, (this note more melodious than <sup>corresponding one</sup> in unifrons)





K Dixon  
1952

Journal

Feb 7. 1 mi. NE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas - (S bank of Colorado River) We worked this narrow fringe of moderate sized timber and fringe of tangled vines, shrubs, grasses from 10:00 to 12:00. Bullfrog heard from bank and 2 frogs (691, 692) taken at edge. Birds seen:

Ladder-bkd Wdphr.

Crow

? yellowthroat

Carolina Chickadee

Cardinal

Marsh Wren - in cattails

Spotted Towhee

Bewick Wren

American Goldfinch

Mockingbird

Savanna Sparrow

Phoebe

Lincoln Sparrow <sup>1 taken</sup> (693)

Brown Thrasher

Song Sparrow.

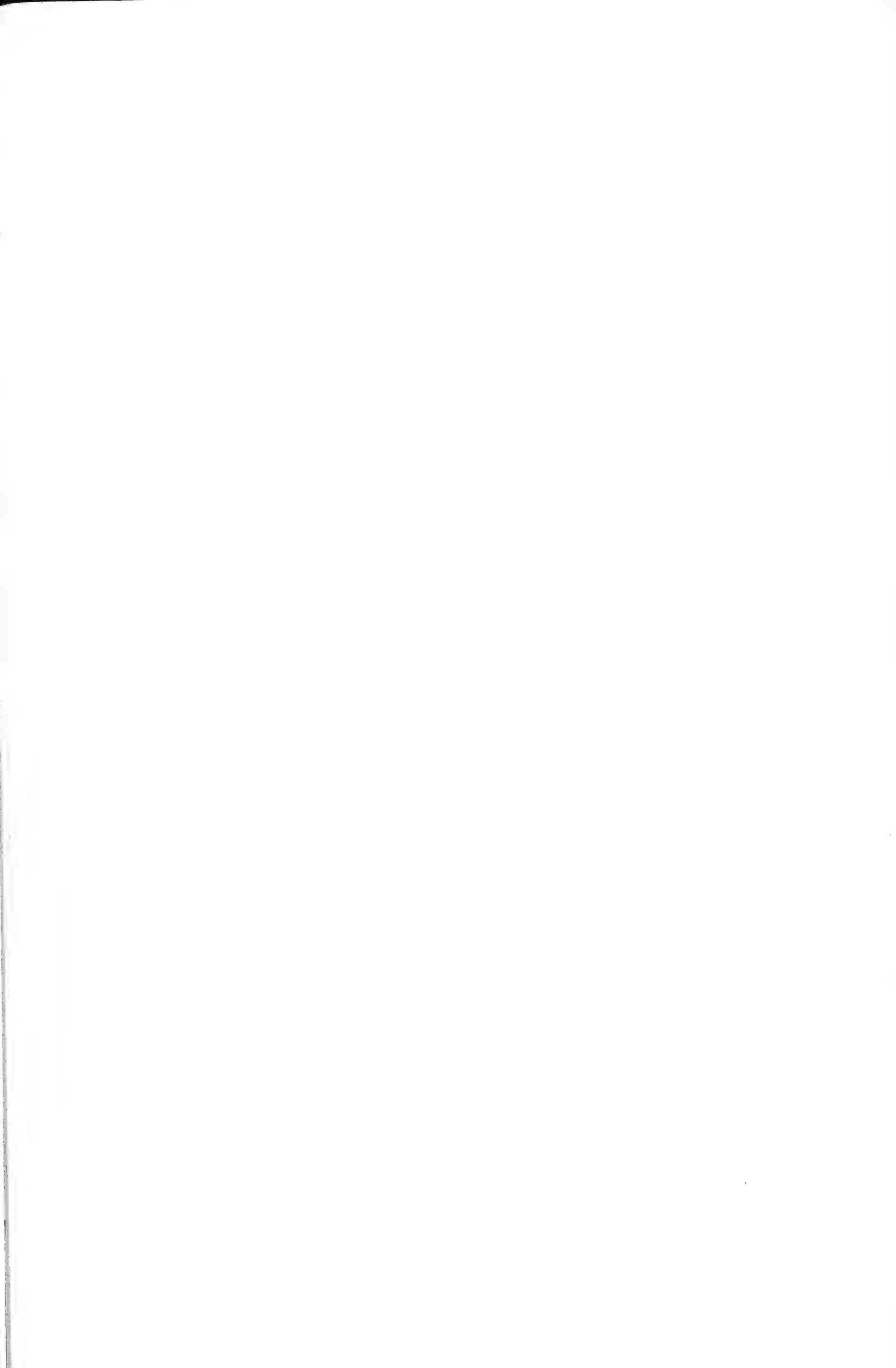
Myrtle Warbler

Feb. 8. 7 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas. CLEAR,

CALM. (WINDY after 10:00 a.m.) I worked in bottomland elm and elm-juniper on the Glines farm on Barton Creek, 8:45 - 10:15. See account, Parus atricristatus.

After 10:30, I worked juniper - covered slope W of creek and 10:50 - 11:30, the <sup>live</sup> oak - juniper of Terrace on which buildings are located. I left farm at 12:30.

Gray Fox - as I handled wounded Titmouse in elm near creek, I saw a Gray Fox approaching at a trot through the elm grove which lacked underbrush. The fox stopped about 100 feet from me, then turned and walked away. I was in plain sight and shifted loads in my shotgun although fox did not come



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 8. 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
into range.

Robin - large flocks throughout elms and junipers,  
probably attracted to juniper berries.

Crow - flying overhead throughout morning

Blue Jay - heard only in elms before 9:00 a.m.

Ladder-backed Woodpecker - in elm-juniper

Red-tailed Hawk - 1 overhead

? Owl - large owl flew across tributary S of elm  
grove at 9:45 - perched beneath cliff, then flew  
upstream

Carolina Chickadee - common

Bewick Wren - "

Carolina Wren - in brushy areas close to streams

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Golden-crowned Kinglet

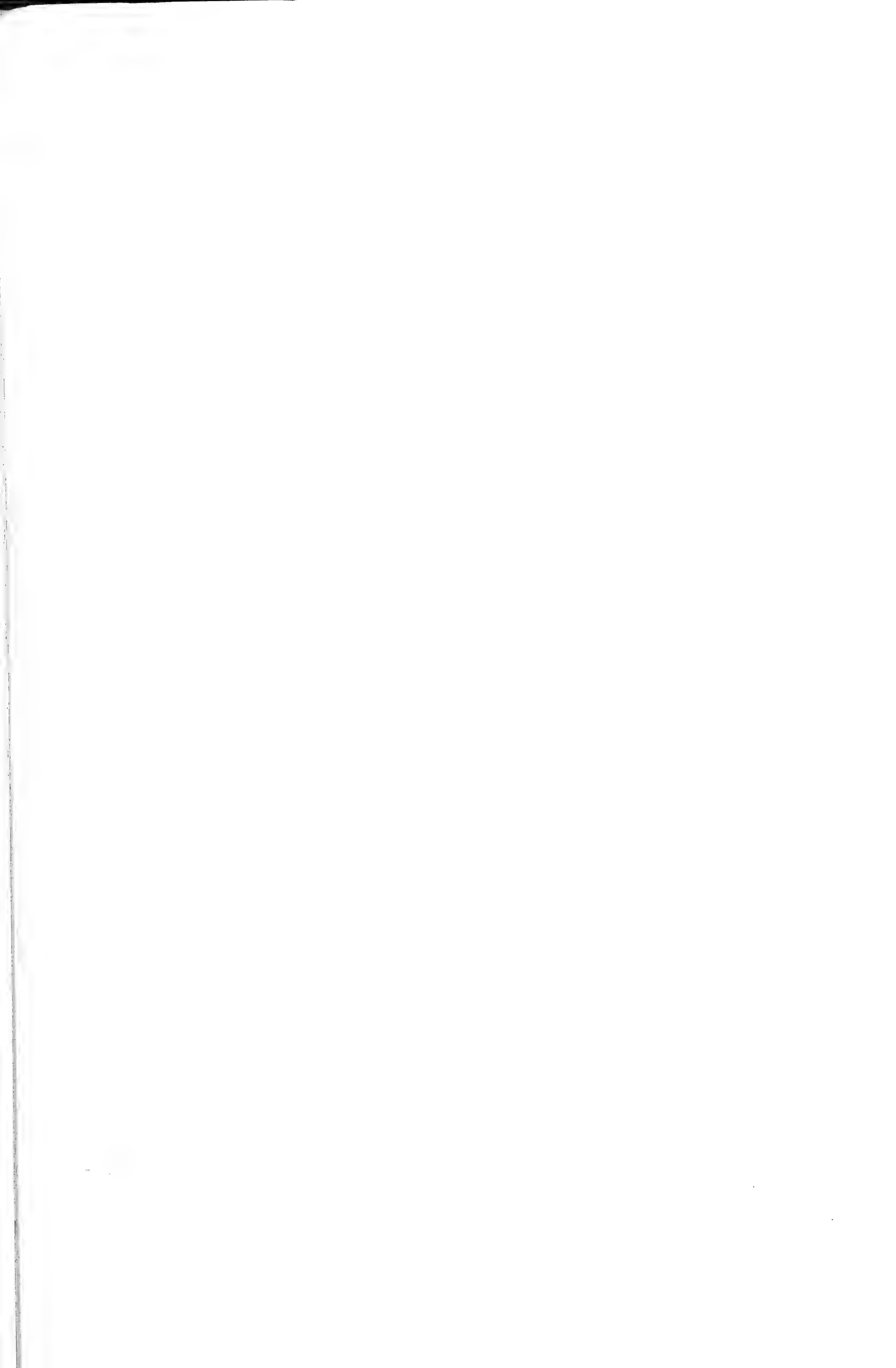
Spotted Towhee

Refous-crowned Sparrow - at 10:20 call dear-dear-

dear of this species heard from area of stony ground  
grown with stunted junipers 3-4 ft high -  
bird not seen although I worked thru this  
sparse growth.

Fence lizard - one seen on rocks as I ascended  
path to farm bldg about 12:25. I had heavy  
loads in gun and lizard took cover before  
I could change loads.

Cardinal - scattered everywhere including pure  
juniper - in pairs



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 9 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas - This area along lower part of Onion Creek was the property of Mr. Herbert Smart, a lawyer who has a practice in Austin. It may be reached by driving W from Jarfield on U.S. Hwy 290 for 2.2 miles, then turning N for about 1/2 mile. I was permitted to drive down into the bottomland and worked along the S bank of the stream 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. for about 3/4 mile, then returning to starting point by 12:00. The timber along the stream was well developed with elm (probably U. americana), cottonwood, China berry, willow and sycamores growing along the banks. Birds noted in this habitat:

Red-bellied Woodpecker

Creeper one taken

Turkey Vulture

Ruby-cr. Kinglet

Great Blue Heron

Myrtle Warbler

Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

Slate-colored Junco

Phoebe

Cardinal

Carolina Chickadee

In area of mesquite - prickly pear - thorn scrub upstream I heard call of Roadrunner

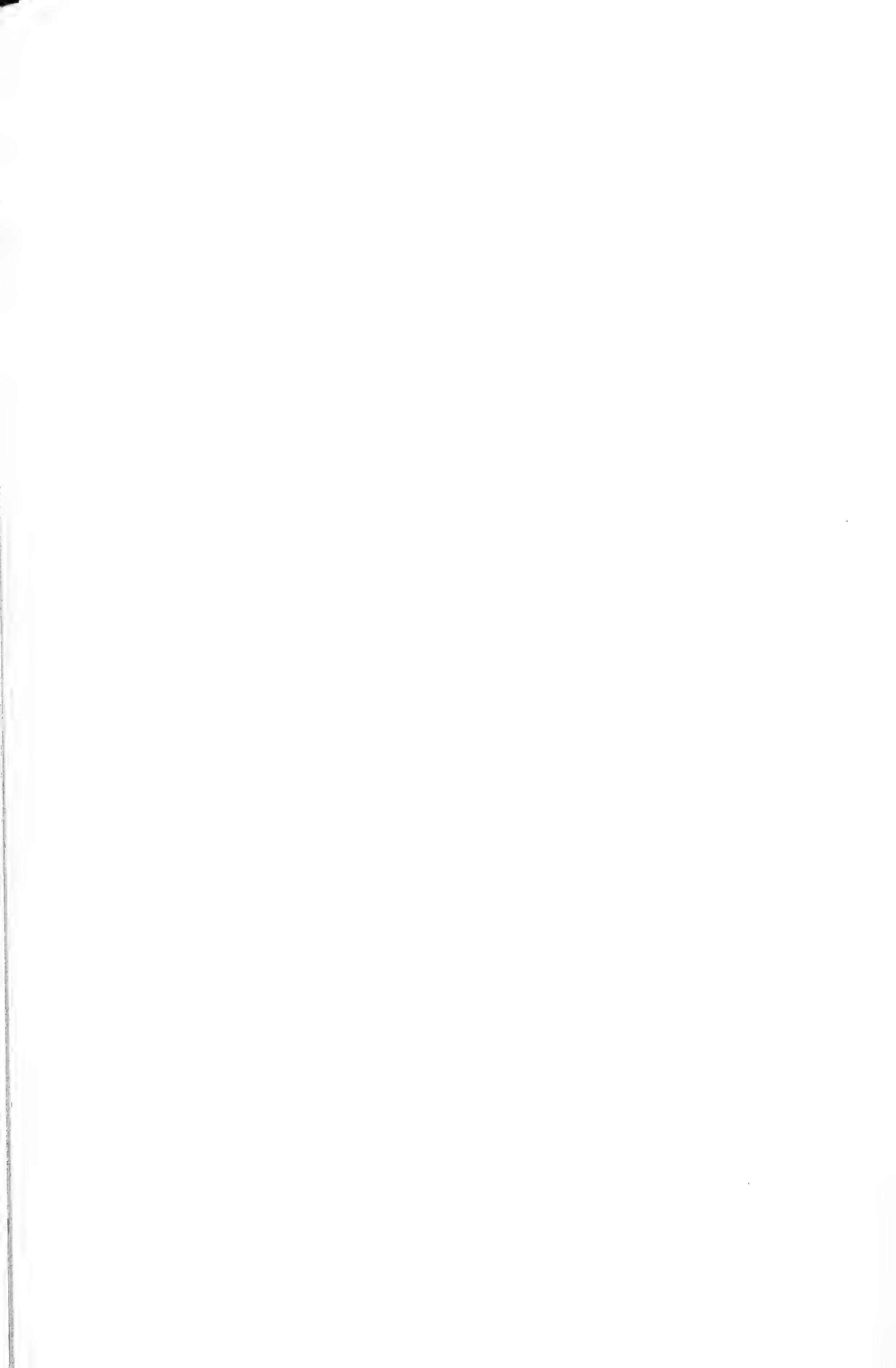
Small frogs, presumably Acris, seen along stream

SEE ACCOUNT, Parus atricristatus - bicolor

Feb 10. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas -

OVERCAST throughout morning; wind generally from N. I spent the morning mapping area of elm grove where <sup>(107)</sup> mouse study being conducted. I took one white-throated Sparrow from a mixed flock in vine tangle area after 11:00.

During the afternoon I ran a transect of the



Feb 10. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas  
vegetation S of road near camp (see acc't for Parus  
bicolor). I took a ♀ Cardinal (708) with the .38  
pistol in this area.

Feb 11. 3 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
CALM with scattered clouds. I worked portion of Onion Cr.  
below the area tramped through Feb 9 and also went  
about 100 yards down the S bank of the Colorado below the mouth  
of Onion Creek. (See ~~at~~ mouse account). Birds not seen  
earlier:

Phoebe - song bee-zureet bee-zurrezit

House Wren

Carolina Wren

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (one found, presumably shot by  
me incidentally earlier in day - saved as skin, 714)

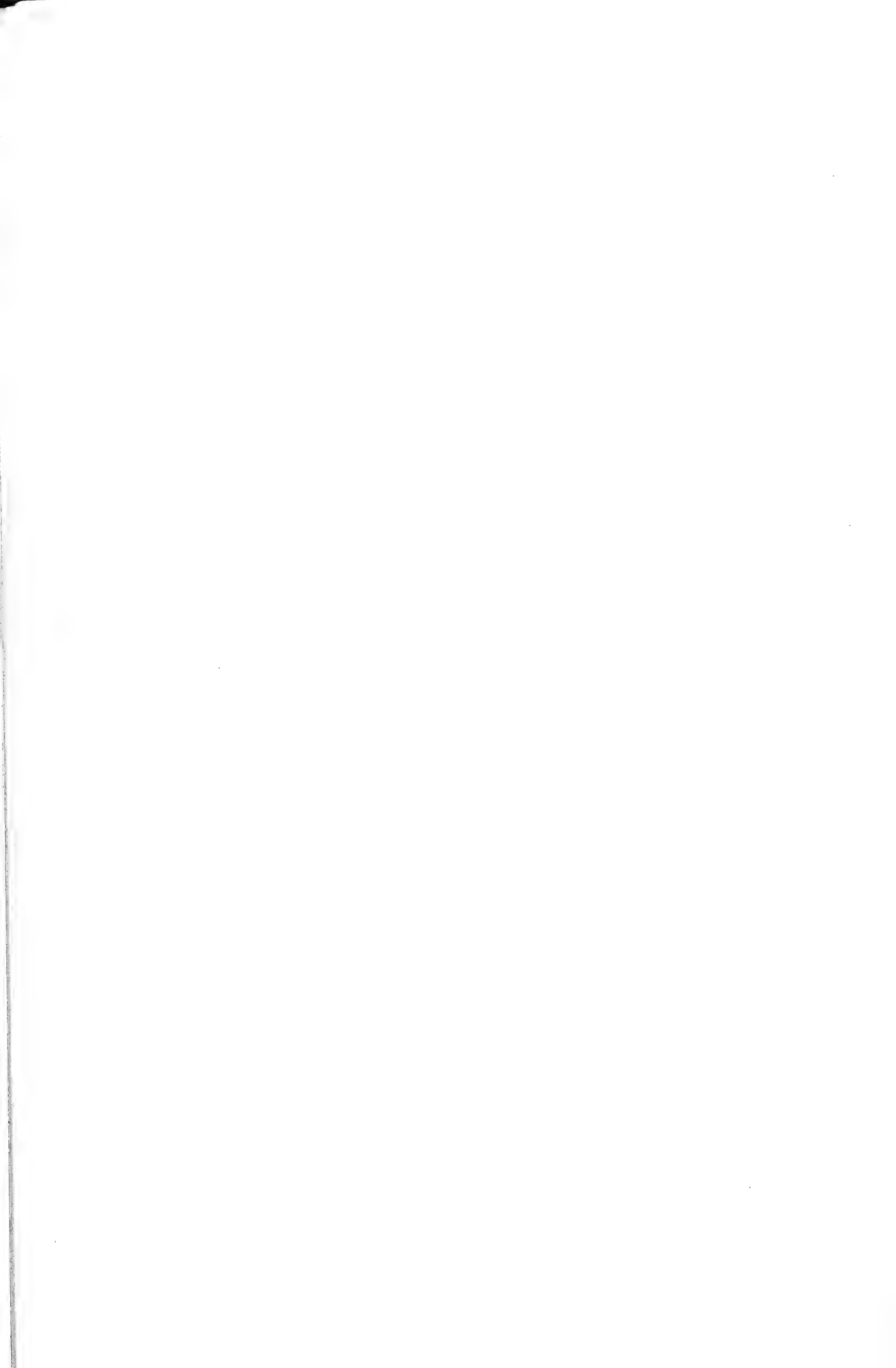
Yellowthroat - ♂, 713, taken in dried cat-tails at mouth  
of Onion Creek - scold note cut - cut only call

Pipit - one heard overhead (? spinoletta)

Song Sparrow - one taken near site of Yellowthroat (715)

I took a ♀ Red-bellied Woodpecker along creek with  
a .38 - bird seemed lethargic and permitted close  
approach. Its feet were mite-infested and bird  
was light in weight (64.5 gm.)

I left area at 12:15 and drove to Austin to see Homer  
Phillips and W. F. Blair about matters relating to collecting.  
I went to Bastrop for mail, returning to camp at  
4:30.





Feb 12. 7 mi. NW Bastrop, 300 ft, Bastrop Co., Texas - we left camp before 8:00 a.m. and drove to Austin, then out a farm road which is a continuation of East 19<sup>th</sup> Street. We proceeded for something beyond 20 miles, passing through Webberville, on the N bank of the Colorado. We stopped in one patch of juniper woodland about 2 mi NW Utley P.O. where A.H. Miller took 3 ~~Admice~~ prior to 9:30.

We arrived in an <sup>unfenced</sup> area of dense juniper woods about 9:45. Juniper trees were tall (25-30 ft) and formed a solid stand, with few deciduous oaks scattered throughout. (See acc't for Parus bicolor)

Red-bellied Woodpecker - I took a ♀ (721) perched in a blackjack oak at E edge of woods. Bird was dead but caught on branch. As I was studying means of retrieving bird, a ♂ flew into tree and gave call which I think was "turrit" - repeated several times from perch high in oak. I took it (722)

Blue Jay - several in area giving nasal caah note and other calls. I heard "rusty gate squeak note" a croaking ca-a-ah somewhat Bufo-like. I have heard this note from other jays previously but never from C. cristata.

Crow - common in area

Robin - abundant, in small flocks, attracted to juniper berries in all probability.

Carolina Chickadee - not common

Cardinal, Myrtle Warbler, Slate-colored Junco also seen. Sceloporus at base of downed



Feb 12. 7 mi. NW Bastrop, 300 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas  
tree ran to cover before I could load for it.

We left at 12:50 p.m., driving a short distance to the high "bridge" across the Colorado and continuing on an improved highway which intersects U.S. Hgwy 290 about 2 mi. W Bastrop.

After lunch in Bastrop, we returned to camp in midafternoon.

Feb 13. 15 mi. ESE Del Valle, 400 ft., Travis Co., Texas

I worked in oak-elm-juniper of level gravelly ridge on Mr. Smart's farm, 8:00 am to 10:00. See acc't for Parus bicolor-atricinctatus. SUNNY, CALM until 9:30. (Dr Miller covered elm-mesquite toward creek)

Myrtle Warbler - seems to be more abundant than it was 10 days ago -- often in groups of 3 or 4.  
En route, Austin to Waco, Mc Lennan Co., Texas

we broke camp shortly after 3:30 p.m. and drove to Austin. From there we proceeded to Waco via U.S. Hgwy 81. ~~Down~~ Travis County about 8 mi. SSE Round Rock, we encountered juniper and live oaks which extended N for 2.3 mi. At Round Rock, Williamson Co., Texas, a brush-lined creek with some live oaks scattered along. For about 4 miles to the southward of Georgetown, Williamson Co., we noted live oaks. Prairie with cultivation to the N but live oaks in vicinity of Salado, Bell Co. For 3.8 miles at the Lampasas River crossing and beyond, discontinuous live oak - juniper. 2 mi farther N, same at Bellton.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 13. En route, Austin to Waco, Mc Lennan Co., Texas

At Temple, Bell Co., Texas - Great-tailed  
Grackle seen. liveoak and juniper at Bruceville  
Mc Lennan Co., at dusk. We arrived at Waco  
in time for dinner and put up for the night.

Feb 14. En route, Waco, Mc Lennan Co., to Dallas, Texas

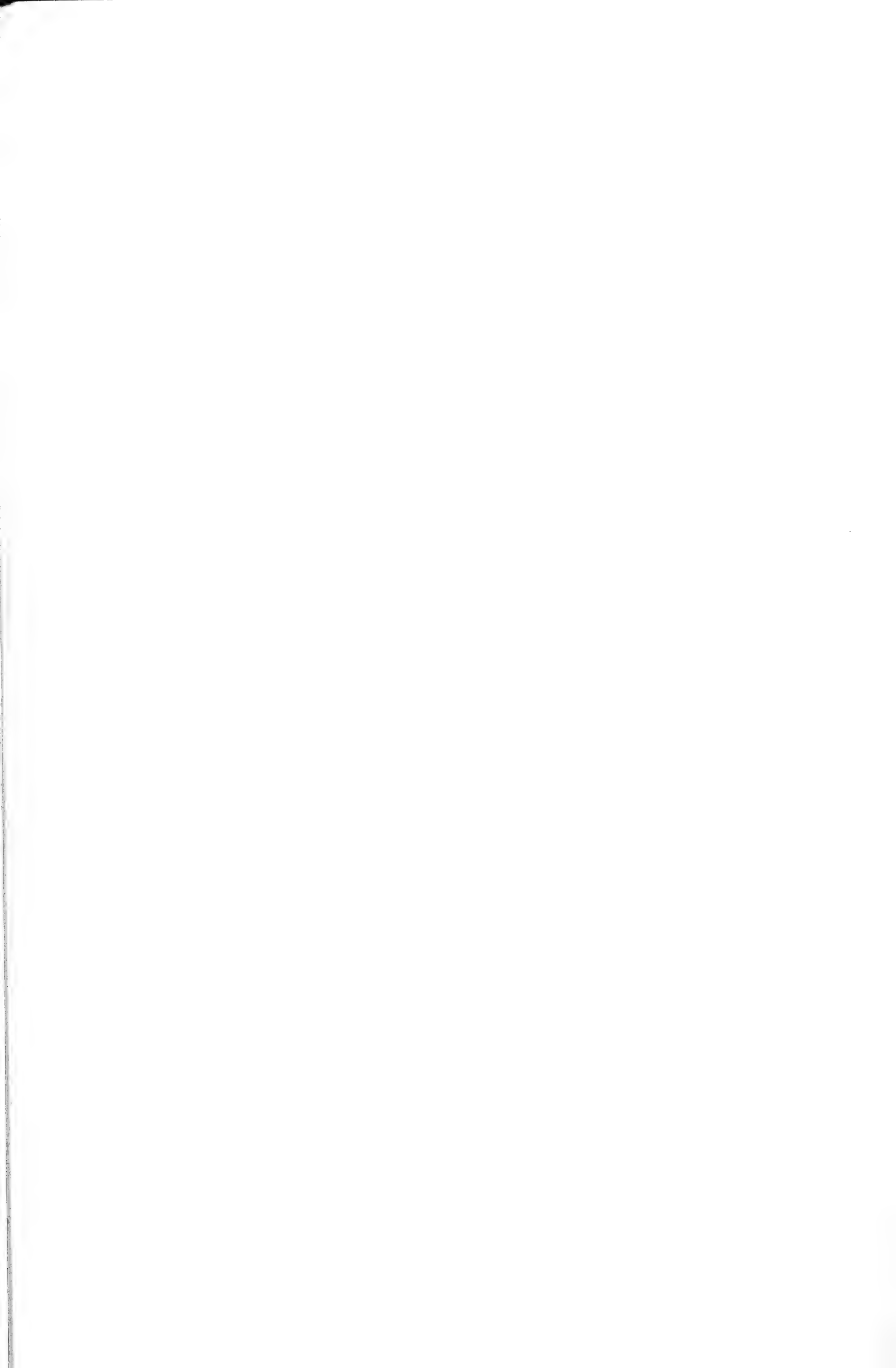
We drove out of Waco about 8:00 a.m. staying on U.S. Hwy  
77, via Hillsboro and Waxahachie. Blackjack oak in  
vicinity of West, Mc Lennan Co., but mostly prairie  
with streambank elms until we reached Waxahachie  
Ellis County. Along the banks of Red Oak Creek in  
the same county, deciduous oaks were noted. Junipers  
seen as Dallas was approached; deciduous oaks  
on the outskirts of that city.

En route, Dallas, Texas to Ranger, Eastland Co., Texas

Dr. Miller took the plane at Dallas and I drove  
W from the NW corner of that city on state hwy. 183.  
This route enabled me to skirt Ft. Worth.

For 6 miles west of Dallas, a belt of deciduous oaks,  
then a 2 1/2 mile gap of prairie. From 3 mi E Euless  
Tarrant Co., to Ft. Worth, blackjack oaks were seen.  
At the circle at the W end of Ft. Worth I saw live oaks  
and deciduous oaks but prairie lay to W.

Six miles W of the Ft. Worth circle, a rise in the  
prairie. Trees not encountered until crossing of Clear  
Fork of Trinity River about 8 mi E Weatherford,  
Parker Co., Texas — live oaks and deciduous oaks.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 14. En route, Dallas to Ranger, Eastland Co., Texas  
11 mi SW of Weatherford on U.S. 80, rocky area of  
stunted blackjack oak. Armadillo dead beside  
road. Some liveoaks along Brazos River.

± 10 mi. E Thubert, IN Palo Pinto County, mesquite seen.

4 mi W Thubert [Crater Co.,] into Ranger, junipers seen.

I reached Ranger about 3:30 p.m. and contacted  
Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Jameson, whose son, David, is a  
student at Texas University. They welcomed me to  
their home and I was taken on a tour of their ranch  
in the drainage of the Leon River.

7 mi. S Ranger, ± 1700 ft., Eastland Co., Texas. - see acc't  
for Parus atricristatus for complete description of area.

Feb 15. COLD; MISTY RANGE intermittent 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.; hard  
ea thereafter. Area generally one of deciduous oaks and  
liveoaks of uplands; oaks - elm - pecan of bottomland.  
I worked along Colony Creek and adjacent bank of Leon  
River, 8:00<sup>a.m.</sup> - 12:15 p.m. - See townsend account.

Bobwhite Quail - covey of a dozen seen in area of brush  
piles along creek -

Golden-fronted Woodpecker - one heard; one taken by  
Pete Jameson and prep'd by me (736)

Red-headed Woodpecker - wary - in deciduous timber  
along creek bed

Downy Woodpecker - seen

Ladder-backed Wdpr. - heard

Carolina Chickadee - common in area where townsend  
found -





Feb 15. 7 mi. S Ranger,  $\pm$  1700 ft., Eastland Co., Texas

Robin

Creeper

Eastern Meadowlark - taken by Pete Jameson (KLD 735)

Western Meadowlark " " " , not saved

Carpodacus sp. 3 seen in deciduous oaks (not on ground) - fired at but none taken.

Slate-colored Junco

Cardinal

Feb 16. En route Ranger, Texas, to Mineral Wells, Texas

I left Ranger about 8:30 a.m. and drove E. About 10 mi. E Ranger, there was a drop from the terrace on which Ranger is situated. I turned N on State Hwy 16 driving through Strawn, Palo Pinto County - Juniper was more prominent in this area.

East of Palo Pinto, there was a second drop (on U.S. Hwy 180). I stopped at the ranch of Mr. I.C. Taylor, 2 mi. W Mineral Wells, 1000 ft., Palo Pinto Co., Texas

Area of rocky hillside with post oak and blackjack and scattered juniper with considerable undergrowth including a thorny vine encountered in Bastrop Co.. This habitat is probably the same as the 'brushy post-oak land' of Osborn's study in Young Co (Jour. Wildlife Mgt., 1943). See account for Parus atricristatus.

Other birds seen, 10:45 - 12:05:

Screech Owl - one flushed from deciduous oak while I had light load in gun.

Blue Jay - one heard



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 16. 2 mi. W Mineral Wells, 1000 ft., Palo Pinto Co., Texas

Carolina Chickadee } all in stunted  
Cardinal } deciduous oaks  
Slate-colored Junco }

En route, Mineral Wells, Texas, to Amarillo, Texas.

I left Mineral Wells about 1:30 p.m. PARTLY CLOUDY. I took no photographs in area of deciduous oak woodland near that city through which junipers were scattered. Junipers were not seen N of a point about 6 mi. N Mineral Wells. Photographs of post oak - blackjack woodland 10 mi. SE Jacksboro, Jack County. Proceeding into Jacksboro, one meets a rise in elevation. live oaks noted first 9 mi. NNW Jacksboro and dead mesquites were noted in vicinity of that city. By the time the settlement of Jermyn, Jack County, had been reached on State Hwy 199, oaks had dropped out and tree growth to the west was largely mesquite. Open prairie through most of eastern Young County. Reached Olney about 3:30, and put up for the night there. Weather was cold (frost).

Feb 17. Clear early but clouded in by noon. I left Olney, Young Co., about 9:15 a.m., driving W on Texas Hwy 199. Vegetation alternately prairie and mesquite with no underbrush. I reached Seymour, Baylor County, by 10:00 and drove to the S edge of town to inspect the Salt Fork of the Brazos River. I found only small willows and mesquites and took a photo.

I drove northward on U. S. Hwy 283 toward Vernon.



KDixon

1952

# Journal

Feb. 17 En route, Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto Co., Texas to Amarillo, Texas

Along this road I noted a gray thorny shrub similar in appearance to the green-stemmed thorn (KLD 476)

At Beaver Creek, 14 mi. SSE Vernon, Wilbarger Co., Texas elms and cottonwoods to height of 25 feet. In five minutes after 10:50, I noted Cardinal, Carolina Chickadee, Slate-colored Junco, but no titmouse.

I drove N out of Vernon one mile to the Pease River finding skimpy tree growth, mostly dense shrubby willow (growth form like Cornus californica) I checked the Pease again NW of Vernon on U.S. Hwy 287 and found no mature cottonwood.

I proceeded to Quanah, Hardeman Co., and drove N 7.8 mi. to the Red River and took photographs. Cover was scanty, no mature cottonwoods. Near the river were windbreak shelter rows of cottonwood, Chilopsis, and ? willow. [4 mi E of Quanah there was a rise to a terrace — there was no continuous cover but some plantings. Riparian growth generally too small for ~~at~~ mice I believe.]

I crossed the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River above Estelline, Hall County, finding the cover the same as that N of Quanah and no water.

Six miles NW Memphis, IN Donley Co., Texas, I noted an escarpment with local cedar breaks and cottonwood trees of good stature in a roadside park in a canyon. To the westward, steppe vegetation prevailed. Some cotton cultivated as far W



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

- Feb-17. En route, Mineral Wells, Palo Pinto Co., Texas, to Amarillo, Texas  
as Hedley, Donley Co. I drove W across these  
high plains into Amarillo, Potter Co., Texas, reaching  
there about 5:30 p.m.
- Feb 18. I called on Mr. Floyd V. Stueder, amateur paleontol-  
ogist, in Amarillo after 9:00 a.m. He arranged for me  
to work on the ranch of Mr. Newton Harrell in Palo  
Duro Canyon, Armstrong Co., Texas.
- I drove to Canyon, called for mail, returned to Amarillo  
and drove E to Claude, in Armstrong County. From  
there I was directed W to Washburn by Mr. Harrell  
whom I met there. I drove S and W about 18  
miles by road to the Harrell ranch house which  
is located in a draw leading to a tributary  
which enters Palo Duro Canyon from the N.





K Dixon  
1952

Feb 18. 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

CLOUDY but cleared; WIND from SW, strong, gusty. I walked down into a tributary of Palo Duro Canyon from the Harrell ranch-house shortly after 1:00 p.m. Within the canyon below the level of the plains was a small stream with running water only in spots. The sides were steep and rocky, in some places cut through massive layers of stone. Sides were grown with junipers, 10-30 ft tall, with scattered deciduous shrubs and some mesquites on the S-facing slopes. Along the streamcourse were battered shrubs I took to be a species of Baccharis. Scattered cottonwoods to 25 ft tall along the winding canyon. The gorge itself was cut to a depth of 50 feet a short distance from the buildings and was about 100 feet wide.

I ascended the north slope about 2:30, noting Rhus trilobata growing on the slope, as well as catclaw. The terrace above was grown with grasses, ? Xoliva, mesquite, juniper (KLD 478) and a grayish-stemmed thorn (KLD 479 [= 476?]). I returned to the truck, obtained the cameras and took photos of the canyon area I had worked in.

Birds noted:

Red-tailed Hawk — 1, soaring

Scaled Quail — flock of about 10 in mesquites near corral — call chur - chur - crack the latter note thin, piercing. Birds also gave subdued notes of a sort similar to those of Lophortyx californicus. One ♂ chased another bird and picked at it twice.



R Dixon  
1952

Feb 18. 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

Wild Turkey - I watched one fly along the canyon wall for about 100 yards and alight on rocky area. 3 other birds (also gobblers, at least with breast plumes) walked along through the junipers and joined the first. The first hopped up  $\pm 7$  feet to a ledge higher and worked up the slope, using a switch-back system. Two others in turn followed, the hop up to the ledge being made rather gracefully in view of weight of birds. The fourth had not followed at the time I left.

Later in the afternoon I saw a group of  $\pm 15$  running across the mesquite-dotted terrace. Still later ( $\pm 3:45$ ) I saw 5 birds picking at something on the bare ground near juniper trees of same area. They were wary and moved ahead of me.

Canyon Wren - seen along rocky stream course <sup>(singly and in complex)</sup>  
call:     )     )     )     )     )  
             zureet   reet   reet   zizur izzer izzer at reet

also song (heard only once)

Robin - abundant, remaining in cover of junipers along stream

Cardinal - pair heard giving pit note and seen skulking in junipers

Gray-headed Junco - one seen - flocks of juncos along dry wash may have included Slate-colored

White-crowned Sparrow - common along dry wash near buildings



R Dixon  
1952

Feb 18 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas  
Song Sparrow - one seen on lumber pile in ranchyard.

No amphibians or reptiles noted. Cottontails with short ears flushed on terrace above canyon.

Feb 19. CLEAR, CALM. I cut across plains to tributary to Palo Duro Canyon and descended into that steep-walled tributary gorge. Turkeys still roosting in cottonwoods at 8:05, sun not striking them as yet. I picked my way along the stream course, stopping to stalk a pair of Titmice (see spec. acc't.) I reached the main part of Palo Duro Canyon at 10:00 and worked along the main stream for 1 1/2 hours. The canyon floor was broad and flat here, the stream being cut 6-8 ft below the level of the terrace. Cottonwoods along the stream; junipers, elms, hackberries on terrace, mostly junipers. Grasses dense, a rich growth which was dry and made stalking difficult. Shrubs included catclaw, Ephedra, Berberis, lead-pencil cactus. I saw one weeping juniper. 11:30 - 12:00 I looked S toward that wall of canyon but found no birds in junipers..

Birds noted:

Bald Eagle - 2 flew from cottonwoods as I approached

Golden Eagle - 1 " "

Sparrow Hawk

Red-shafted Flicker - flushed in numbers near stream

Golden-fronted Wdphr - 1, way S (cottonwood)

Ladder-backed Wdphr - in open canyon



K. Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 19. 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas  
Piñon Jay - feather found on flat near ranch  
Bewick Wren - singing  
Bush-tit - flock  $\pm 10$  in junipers  
Mountain Bluebird  
Townsend Solitaire  
Golden-crowned Kinglet  
Ruby-crowned Kinglet  
myrtle (?) Warbler  
Spotted Towhee  
Brown Towhee - one pair  
Cardinal -  $\sigma\sigma$  seen, ♀ inconspicuous, shy  
Rufous-crowned Sparrow - call heard  
Chipping Sparrow  
Slate-colored Junco definitely identified.  
Meadowlark - one in grassy opening  
I left main canyon at 12:30, reaching the ranch house at 2:00. Poisoned coyotes (2) along dry stream course.

The two Canyon Wrens taken were among boulders near stream in tributary canyon. One was exchanging call notes with another 15 yds distant when I happened upon it. Both taken with .38

I left the Harrell ranch before 5:00 p.m. and drove into Amarillo. After dinner, I proceeded to Canyon, moved into a motel and prepared my bird skins.





K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 20. Palo Duro Canyon, 13 mi. E Canyon,  $\pm$  3400 ft., Randall Co., Texas

CLEAR, COLD, CALM. I drove E out of Canyon after 7:45 a.m. toward the State Park which is 12 miles E of the town. Ring-necked Pheasant  $\sigma$  and group of 3 Starlings noted on outskirts of the town. I reached the Park entrance and proceeded along the main road which descends into the Canyon. I left the car beside the road at 8:30 and walked along the brook which had ice along its edges. I stayed in area until 9:10. See acct for Parus atricristatus. Other birds singing included Bewick Wren and Ladder-backed Woodpecker (drumming). No birds not seen on Harrell Ranch. Area similar, cottonwoods along stream and juniper woods elsewhere.

I drove up out of the canyon on to the plateau or rim. I noted 2 Scaled Quail sitting at the roadside their feathers ruffled and bodies resting on the ground. Their bodies were in contact like those of chickens on a roost. A lone bird sat similarly on the other side of the road. I approached on foot and the birds rose to their feet slowly and walked away. At least half a dozen were sunning in a similar manner a few feet from the road.

Time 9:20 a.m.

I drove back into Canyon and called on Mr. C.B. McClure, Director of the Panhandle Plains Museum. He called my attention to an article on Birds of the Texas Panhandle by A.S. Hawkins published in 1945.



K Dixon  
1952

## Journal

Feb 20. En route, Canyon, Randall Co., Texas to Berkeley, Calif.

I left Canyon at noon driving SW on U.S. Hgwy via Hereford to Clovis. All cattle ranch country, high plains. At Clovis, New Mexico, I turned S on U.S. 70.

7 mi NE Portales, Roosevelt Co., New Mexico — a Raven (smallish, = cryptoleucos?), the only one seen in afternoon. Many dead raptors at roadside as though

someone had shot them in numbers about 2 weeks earlier. Reached Roswell at 3:30 and continued

W. Found a Callipepla 8 mi. by rd. E of Sunset,  
in Lincoln Co., N. Mex. At Hondo



*Species accounts*



K Dixon  
1952

Centurus aurifrons

Jan 30. 11 mi. NWourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

Sunny with scattered clouds, commenced 11:00 a.m.

Golden-fronted Woodpeckers were common - and were seen in dense mesquite-brush growth in E. section. Parula, both in closely spaced mesquite and more open growth along parcel road to E. I took a ♂ ( ) in dense mesquite near road; bird it had been associated with in flight, in the dense foliage. It gave a chek chek call, piercing, suggestive of a war scold. I took this bird ( ). The call recorded at time as chir-irr-irr of nasal quality was given by the ♂ bird.

I saw a pair near windmill E of road and heard others. Within 5 minutes a yellow-backed Woodpecker ♂ foraging on a trunk; another woodpecker ~~the~~ worked up the trunk below the scalaris and the latter flew away. The second proved to be an aurifrons.

I took a ♀ (655) in same patch of woods where other pair taken.... Bird was only wounded and gave a chicken like squawk when handled.





H Dixon  
1952

Parus carolinensis

Feb 3. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas.

Song of chickadee near power-line clearing on Young property: see see see (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> "bees" lower pitched than 1<sup>st</sup>) later in morning I heard a song with 5 notes rather than the usual 4; it had a tagalong "bee" note.

Feb 5. CALMER than preceding days but WINDY after 10:00.

During the past 3 mornings I have found chickadees singly or in pairs. Call notes recorded as follows:

dee dee dee - scold

see - chit     7     latter note curt

spiggle - ya spiggle - yee an Agelaius-like gurgle heard on several occasions

Feb 9. 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas. - CLEAR,

WARM, CALM. Chickadees noted occasionally along Onion Creek in streambank timber. About 11:40, as I was trying to locate a ~~titmouse~~ which had stopped singing, I made a hissing noise. The first birds to respond were 2 chickadees which approached within a few feet of me, giving sputtery chickadee dee notes. Dense elm and oak reproduction along this bank.

Feb 15. 7 mi. S Ranger, ± 1500 ft., Eastland Co., Texas

COLD, RAINY, calm. Chickadees were common in post oak - blackjack woodland (closely spaced) in the same areas where ~~titmouse~~ occurred. They were noisy and in the poor light I shot at one, mistaking it for a ~~titmouse~~. I took one (♀ 734) unintentionally when firing at a ~~titmouse~~ later; its mate moved about, calling



K Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor

Feb 4. 15 mi. W Bastrop

I reached creek area above earth dam at 8:20  
CLEAR, WINDY (from NW). Titmouse song infrequent.  
I looped to SW and N returning at 8:50.

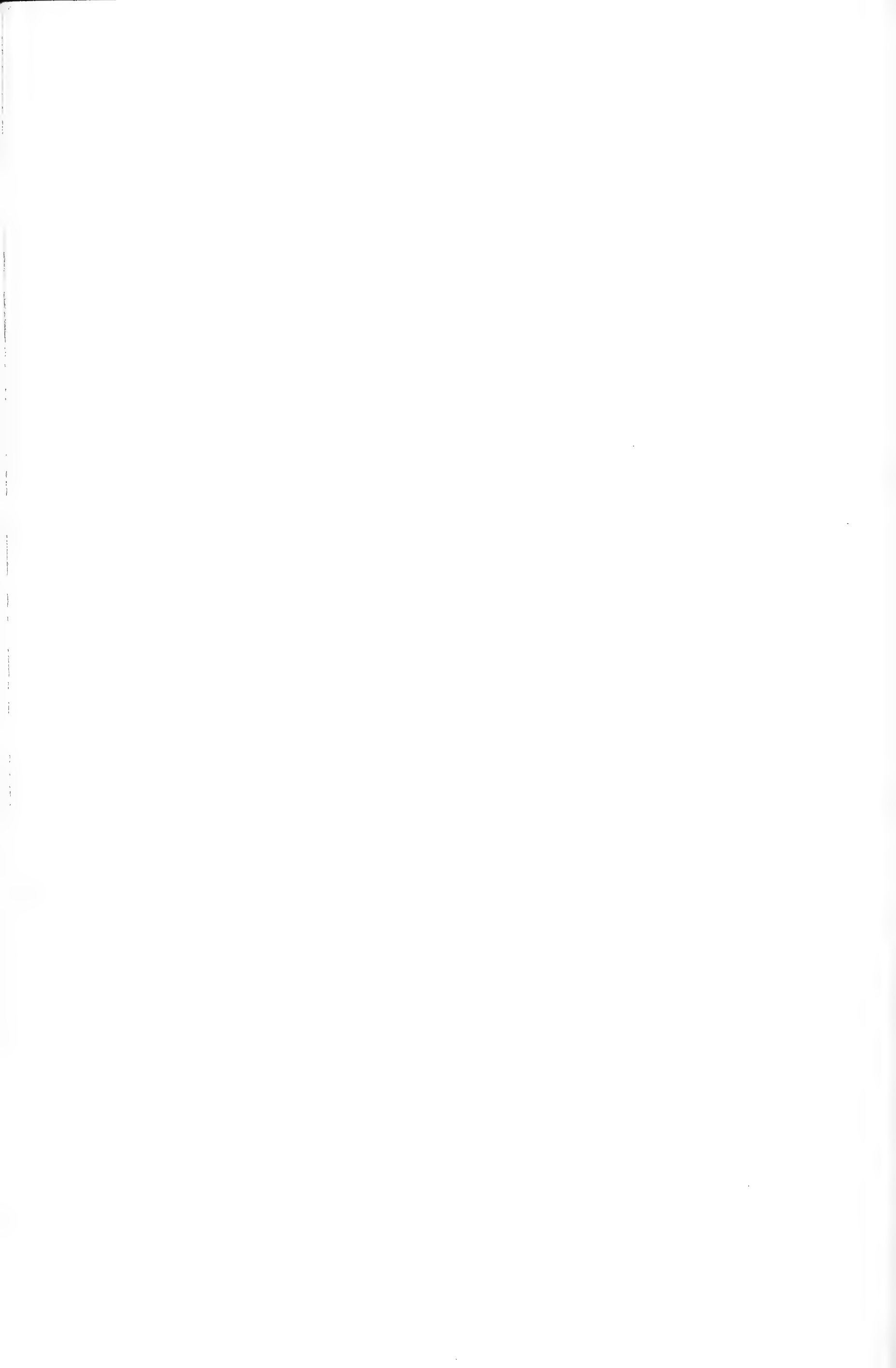
Song tree - - - - - 6 and 7 phrases  
downstream - I went to investigate

Sicken vet vet - - - of one bird as singing  
of other stopped - see chup of other, then putty  
putty - - - - - Trip, then silence. Pair?  
(<sup>action occurred</sup> S of stream course below dam) 8:57. (Song in answer  
well to S also ceased)

9:02 Tit flew from old mesquite N into elm and  
began song Tury - - - - - 6 phrases  
Answer from S and once from W. Mate not seen  
Explosive sicka dee dee dee dee from Carolina Chk.  
to E and pair approached and scolded see  
chet chet and chickadee (explosive, gurgly)  
at 9:05 Song then stopped. Titmouse began  
soft tsit tsit evenly spaced.

Song resumed kyta kyta 5-7 phrases  
facing in different directions, then wick wick  
- - - - - it. Chickadees silent  
vet vet vet to E.

phlee phlee phlee thin, forced, gackle-  
like - bird foraging at base of elm - 7:  
Bird there began putty - - - - - 5's  
at 9:13 and then flew to elm E where he foraged  
at base, singing from ground as well as about 6 ft.



K Dixon  
1952

Barns bicolor

Feb-4

15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

Song interrupted 9:17, then resumed; answer from

E Party 5, rarely 6's. - E song closer

(I am not sure this is the same bird)

9:20 bird in elm phlee-phlee then party ---

4's Cher-wee cher-wee cher-wee cher-wee

then party --- faster

cher-wee --- see phleet (or phleet phleet)

Bird perched conspicuously although wind strong  
phleet note interspersed in slow, coupled cher-wee  
song.

I followed bird across downed fence to E at 9:25  
and watched it forage there until 9:36. Bird seemed  
to be alone. It hopped on ground beneath shrubs  
and searched around the bases of elms a good deal.  
It worked on broken mesquite branch 2 ft off ground  
and called see-chup as it hopped to another  
segment of that branch. Single Tait notes given  
by bird as it hopped on ground. Rather steady  
singing may indicate unmated status.

I worked W to dan. and beyond along brook course.  
I cut S. and, after 9:45, worked carefully thru patch  
of elms next to open field to S. Other birds here incl.  
Eastern Bluebird, Chickadee, Kinglets, Field Sparrow,  
but no Titmouse. I worked thru carefully until  
10:10, then crossed open area to SE and started  
thru elm patch there. I followed bird flock  
along W edge and located Titmouse as it flew to



Feb 4 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

Edge of woods I had covered from mesquite in clump of green-stemmed thorn growing in clearing. I followed this bird 10:17 - 10:26. It appeared to be alone, giving tail notes infrequently and once chee sonay. It worked in higher parts of elms seemingly untroubled by the wind, although wind caught tail once and almost threw bird over frontward. Tail notes given as titmouse hopped to new perch. Once bird spiraled upward, perching two feet above former perch, facing opposite direction after making half turn in air. I left this area after checking on this bird at 10:40. Titmouse still foraging alone in elms.

I spent the next 20 minutes in the elm woods E of the clear area, then worked upstream from the dam (which lies N of those woods). I looked back along N side of brook course, reaching roadway at 11:20. I paced distance 55~~ft~~<sup>by compass</sup> to fence at 290 paces. From point on fence intercepting continuation of NNE-SSW road, I paced 470 steps due W along fence to gateway N of logpile. This logpile in the open field is south of the area of elm woods hunted 9:45 - 10:15 today. These woods the place where titmice first found Feb 3.

I worked back N toward camp arriving at 12:25 - no titmice encountered. No song heard since lone male left at 9:35.





K Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor

Feb 4 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

I returned to area along brook course below dam about 1:30 p.m. SUNNY; BREEZE NEGLIGIBLE. I noted one titmouse fly from one elm along brook to one S and continue foraging there (area where I watched at 9:13 today). Bird gave call see-chee-up once. No mate seen and bird disappeared shortly afterward (a bird which may have been the titmouse flew to E side of road about 1:45).

I worked in area below dam to point 375 yards E of road until after 3:00 pm WIND STRONG again, remaining so through afternoon. No titmouse detected.

Dr. Miller told me of having worked E of the roadway after 10:00 a.m. today and of seeing 4 pairs of titmouse in addition to an apparently unmated ♂ close to road. The latter had a Cedar Waxwing-like note which may have been the one I recorded as "phleet". Probably the ♂ I left at 9:35.



K R Korr  
1952

Parus bicolor

Feb 5. 15 mi. W Bastrop

SUNNY; LIGHT BREEZE from S. I walked S and reached dam at 7:58 (slow walk thru woods had revealed no titmice) Titmouse singing <sup>(+tree)</sup> tree --- from elms immediately downstream from dam. Answer from S repeatedly and from W once in a while, a different type of song, slower, perhaps twee --- I followed up S bird and found that song had come from woods S of grassy field. Bird now gave peyta --- always 3 phrases per song burst. Answer from W --- I located singer in large elm along fence at N edge of field at 8:05 Tung --- Song ceased shortly - 2 titmice together and I couldn't be sure of ♂. Birds moved into lower elm to N and ♂ soon opened up again. I waited, then fired at ♀ with .38 she was only frightened and flew NE into mesquites, male following. He perched giving tsit and she(?) scooped from mesquite to W. I fired another .38 and she flew W to edge of elms.... bird seemed wobbly and I eventually downed her (678 ♂). This point was 112 yards N of fence (at song perch tree, 8:05) on E edge of elm patch where I had seen bird about 10:25 Feb 4. Time 8:20.

I worked E to follow up mate and saw bird fly into N edge of elm patch E of clearing. I approached and watched him forage - bird saw a moth and began aerial pursuit, first among branches of elm while drifting downward, then out into open



*Parus bicolor*

Feb 5 15 mi. W Bastrop

to north with rather skillful maneuvering I thought. Whether bird captured north or not I couldn't see. He came to perch in lone elm N of grove  $\pm$  30 yds and I took him (679 ♂).

I began walking in a SE direction cutting thru alms to thin mesquite patch. There I sighted a Titmouse in a mesquite and saw another in a Berberis. The latter picked at a leaf once. The pair worked NE and one foraged in a clump of green-stemmed thorn (on plant or ground?) By the time I had maneuvered around to SE of them, the birds had moved on into the dense alms to NE. I approached and watched their foraging, recording motions on another sheet.

The two seemed to keep in close touch, giving only tsit notes occasionally. Foraging seemed to be in upper branches of alms although I saw one bird hitch up a trunk apparently by use of feet and wings only. It progressed upward perhaps 3 feet in this fashion. I left these birds and moved due N to dam at 9:10. No Titmouse activity detected.

I took a stroll upstream and back to dam 9:20-9:30 finding no Titmice. I then proceeded S cautiously and located Titmice foraging in the alms again. Occasionally one gave a note see-cheyay softly but I wasn't sure it was the same one each time. One had a tail bent to its own right but this couldn't always be detected to mark the bird. The pair moved W across mesquites into



K Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor

Feb 5. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

elm patch to W at 9:47. As they foraged, sometimes 40-50 ft from me, I heard some call notes which I jotted down. see-schlet; schlap; see-vay (2nd note more prolonged than see-schlet) and a sharp seet. Again, I am not sure that the same bird gave all of these.

By 10:00 the two had moved to W edge of that elm patch and were at the edge of the clearing with larger areas of green-stemmed thorn. I fired at one with little visible effect; it flew to small elm W and then apparently both birds worked across clearing to some W or into meagrites S.

No further trace of them — no song in ± 1 hr 20<sup>m</sup> I had watched them.

I paced off the distance of 8:05 song tree to gap in fence W at 145 yds. Coming back to W-most elm patch, I happened upon a titmouse at 10:40. Bird in area where tits first seen Feb 3. It perched motionless on elm branch 15 ft or so up; later it gave tsit increasingly loud. Tsit from NW made me think mate might be there. I held fire, then tried a shot and missed. I searched area subsequently and couldn't locate titmouse although chickadee-kinglet - myrtle warblers flock in area where location notes had originated. I left at 10:35 and worked E toward roadway. No activity in area E of dam. I then walked N out of bottomland area.





K Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor

Feb 5. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

I walked through elm bottomland after 5:00 pm but did not locate any Titmice downstream from roadway. I walked up brook to W of roadway at 5:20 and heard call see - cheyay from elms along stream. At 5:22 I saw Titmouse in elm at point about 105 paces above road; it flew into next elm W and exchanged same call with Titmouse in next elm W. Bird then flew into that elm and the two birds remained there; vet vet notes of antagonistic nature were given but no song. No pursuit or other aggressive motions which I could detect. I maneuvered around for better view at 5:25 and heard no more calls. A minute later, the birds were nowhere to be seen. Cloudy. I walked thru elms to W and gathered armadillo skeleton in clearing between middle and W elm grove. No calls by time of departure 5:45.



K Dixon  
1952

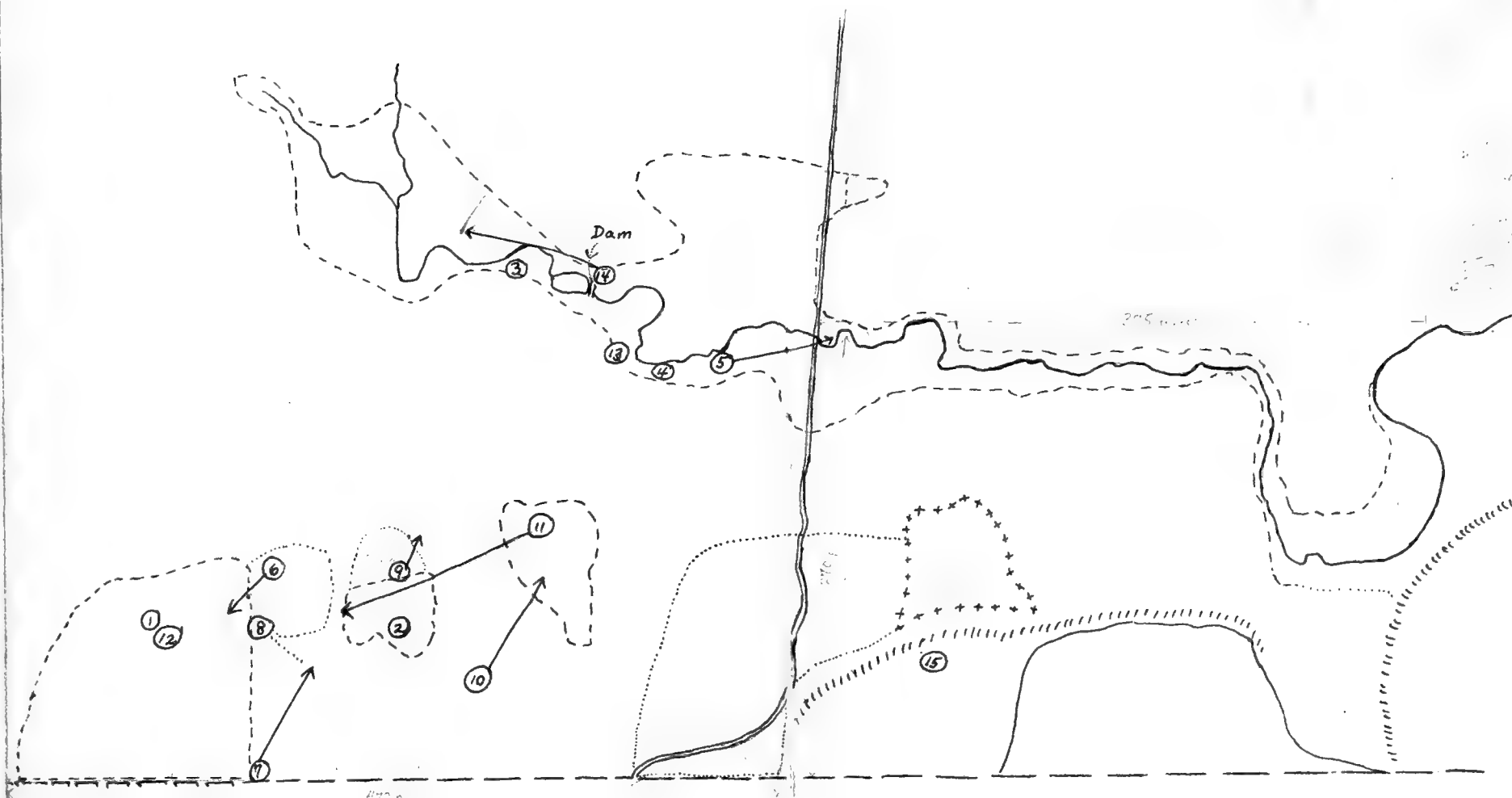
Parus bicolor

Feb 6. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

CLEAR; WIND FROM N, strong, but shifted to W by 9:00 and then back to E by 9:30. I reached the brook near the dam at 8:23 and proceeded partway downstream to rock, then SW into elm grove. I combed back and forth, and worked into small (middle) elm grove. Flock of chickadees and kinglets here at 8:45 - Field Sparrows also. I worked into W-most elm patch and searched there for 20 min. No sign of a titmouse. [As I consider now, the first ♂ taken yesterday at the E edge of that grove was the resident (#678). The lone bird I fired at about 10:40 was his<sup>te</sup> in all probability. The status of the other ♂ (679) is problematical.]

I worked in elms to E after 9:30 CLOUDING IN; wind from north, velocity variable. 9:50 - as I came upon bird flock on N bank of brook below dam, I heard vet vet vet of titmouse. The silent member of the pair seemed to be leading the way, keeping with the kinglets and warblers. I circled to S once, then again as scold heard from one bird and other not seen. The silent bird was still leading the way and I went ahead too far (into N bank area W downed log in meadow [scene of dispute Feb 3]). I worked back at 10:00 and saw bird believed to be the ♂ in mesquite N of brook and SE of elm where ♀ last seen. He called vet-vet-vet and seet-seet (coupled, nearly melodious) see-cheyay once, a sputtery peta (one phrase only) then the hissing phleet-phleet.





- ① Pair, 10:25, Feb. 3
- ② Pair, 10:40, Feb. 3
- ③ dispute, 4? birds, 10:55, Feb. 3
- ④ 2 birds, 8:55, Feb. 4
- ⑤ Lone ♂, 9:20-9:36, Feb. 4
- ⑥ Lone bird, 10:17-10:40, Feb. 4
- ⑦ Pair, 8:05, Feb. 5
- ⑧ 678 ♂, 8:20, Feb. 5
- ⑨ 679 ♂, 8:30, Feb. 5
- ⑩ Pair, 8:55-9:10, Feb. 5

- ⑪ Pair, 9:35-10:00, Feb. 5 (= ⑩)
- ⑫ Lone bird, 10:40, Feb. 5  
(? mate of 678 ♂)
- ⑬ Vocal exchange, 5:22-5:26  
Feb. 5
- ⑭ Pair, 686-687, 9:50-10:10, Feb. 6
- ⑮ AHM Pair 8306-8307, Feb. 5

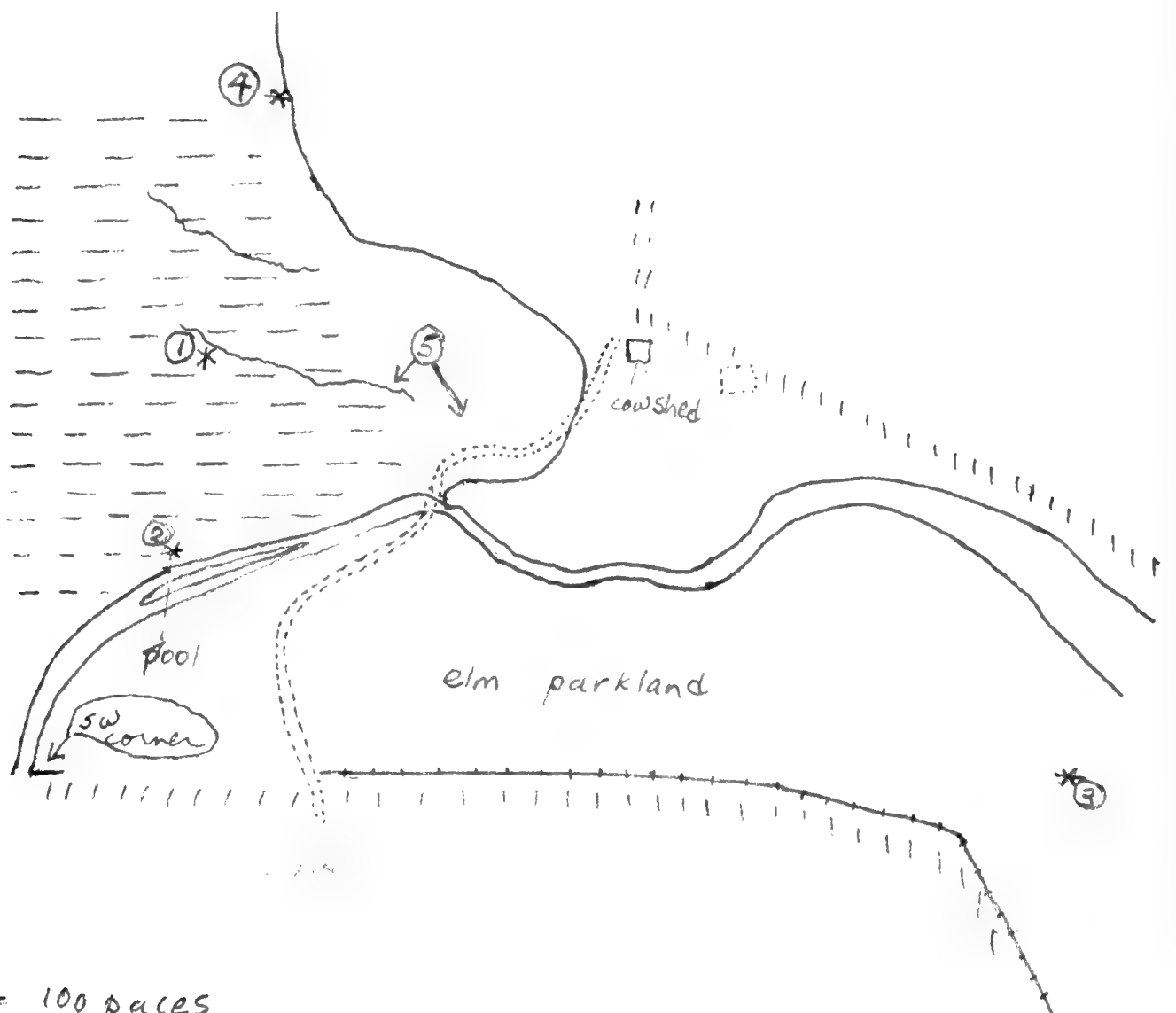
BERKELEY: MUSEUM OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

K. Dixon

1952

Feb 6 15 mi. W Bastrap, 600 ft., Bastrap Co., Texas

- ① unmated ♂, AHM 8312 Feb. 6
- ② pair, 8313-8314 AHM Feb 6
- ③ unmated ♂, AHM 8315 Feb 6
- ④ pair, AHM 8308-8309 Feb 5
- ⑤ scene of quarrel involving ①, ②, ③, Feb. 6.



1 inch = 100 paces

== = elm-mesquite

|||| = border of open field

.... = road

++ = fence





K Dixon  
1952

Feb. 10 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

OVERCAST throughout morning. Wind generally southerly rather strong. I spent the period from 8:15 - 10:45 in area along stream W of road on Young property completing my map. After 11:00 I worked downstream to main creek also mapping. I returned to camp at 12:50. No *Atmice* heard during entire morning.

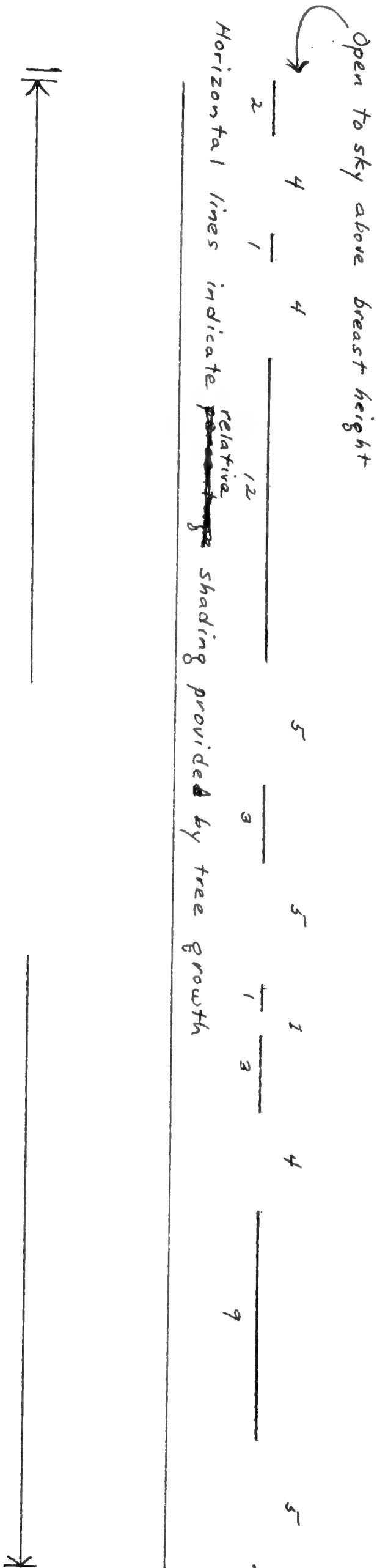
During mid-afternoon I ran a 200-foot transect of woody vegetation in area S of road where *Atmice* of mesquite nest of 1951 foraged. The elms were more widely spaced than I had recalled earlier. I found the following numbers of individuals in a 200-foot line running E by compass from a hackberry in shallow brook area:

<u>Prosopis</u>	12
<u>Opuntia</u> <sup>KLD</sup>	8
<u>Berberis trifoliatum</u>	7
<u>Celtis</u> sp.	3
Prickly pear (KLD 476)	2
	2
<u>? Diospyros</u>	1
<u>Ulmus crassifolia</u>	1



K Dixon  
1952

Feb. 10 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas





R Dixon  
1952

Feb 7 1 1/2 mi S Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas - We reached Onion Creek by driving in a westerly direction from our camp 15 mi W Bastrop. The creek intersects the road 5 1/2 mi W of our camp; the area we hunted in was several hundred yards downstream. The area near the road-creek intersection is a bottomland heavily timbered, presumably with elms and other species. To the eastward, in so far as could be seen from the road, there is a gentle rise with some breaks; much of the land is cultivated. Uncultivated land is grown to mesquite brushland, often rather dense. Elms (U. crassifolia) appear increasingly as one nears our camp (i.e.: higher on the gravel ridge) and are more numerous along stream courses. This cover offers thin route for exchange of members of the Onion Creek population and that to the east, near our camp (Mayhaw Creek).

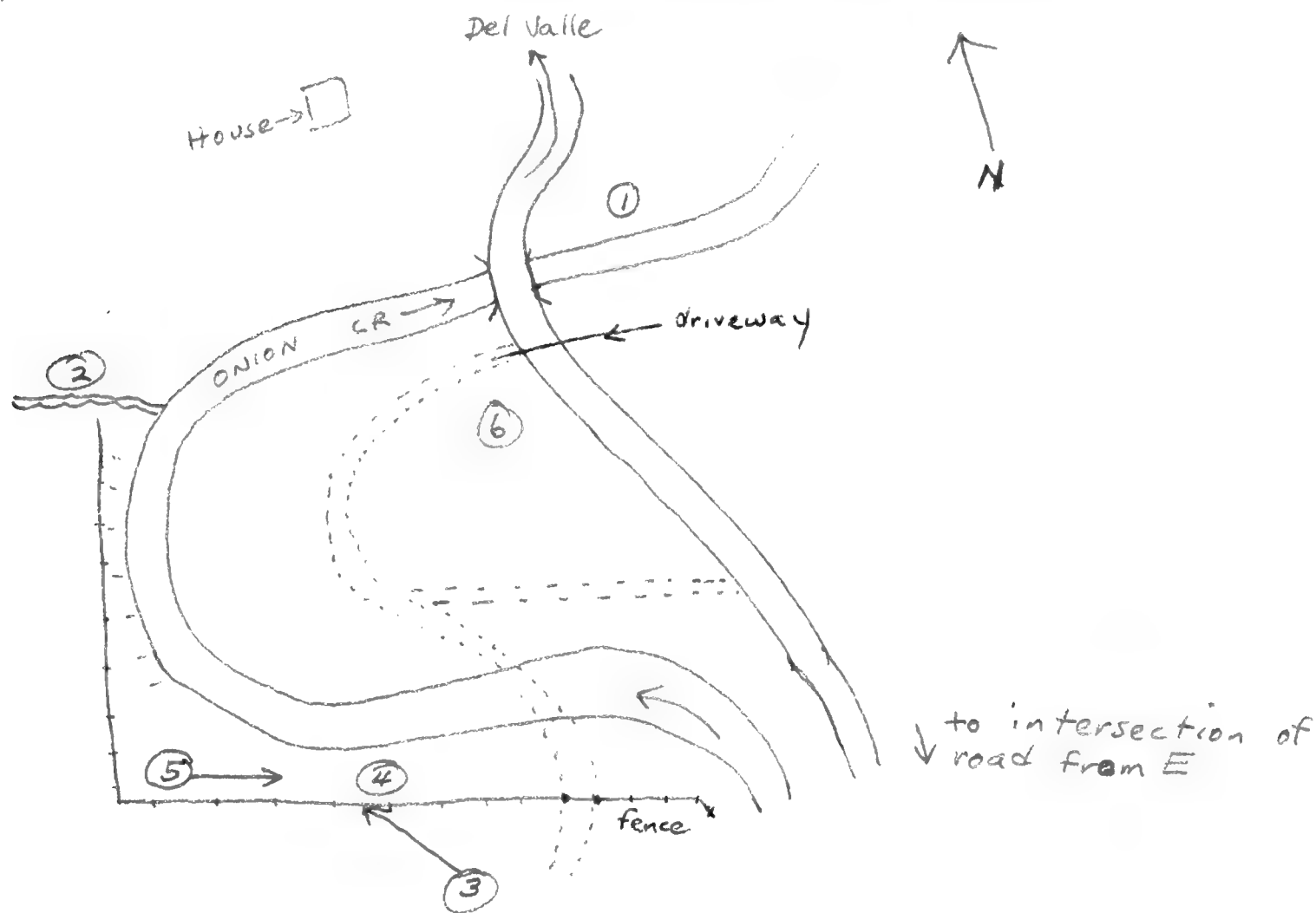
We arrived at an unfenced area lying in the loop of the creek near the edge of Bergstrom Field. The area is 1.5 miles by road from Del Valle, a small settlement on U.S. Hwy 290. The trees along the creek and the "bench" above it are tall. Cottonwoods were along the stream; large leafed elms judging from litter, and a variety of trees including a maple. This was the area visited with E. Kincaid of Austin last April.

Dr Miller and I arrived in area about 8:20 CALM, SUNNY, FROST ON GROUND. We heard tomonce singing downstream but site was too exposed for shooting (house and road nearby)



K Dixon  
1952

Feb. 7 1 1/2 mi. S Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas



- ① area where ♂ heard about 8:25
- ② scolds of pair about 8:45 (tributary stream).
- ③ location of singing ♂ (later fired at)
- ④ location of ♂ 689 when taken
- ⑤ approach of ♀ 690 as ♂ squealed when handled
- ⑥ area where scold heard ± 8:30

On map above, ①, ②, ⑥, ④ and ⑤ apparently represent members of one pair. After considerable wait, calls were heard about 9:15 from area along fence to posted land (④). One bird N of fence giving scold, answered from S. Vocality ceased and titmouse dropped to ground, flying upward with object in beak. <sup>no other titmouse in sight,</sup> I took him then and bird (689) fell wounded. When picked up, bird began to repeat scream like seah seah





Feb 7. 1 1/2 mi S Del Valle

Rival ♂ flew over from S and perched overhead above fence. Blue Gray there giving caah note. I fired at Titmouse but apparently did little damage, for I saw no more of him. Then another Titmouse moved along the fence line from the W and perched in tree above me. I knocked her down with 1/2 load, then tried to locate ♂ from E of fence. No calls given by these birds. The second flew up from ground and I took her with .22 (♀, 690) No further calls from area in next 20 minutes. [♂ 689 had 2 narrow windows on either side of mid-line of skull - single-layered when seen in X-section] None of the birds here seemed to be singing very steadily.

1 mi NE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas - area along S bank of Colorado River - in many places, a single row of leafless willows; elsewhere cottonwoods and other large trees but no width to the woodland. Dr Miller explored one "bench" covered with elms and several acres in extent. During late morning (10:00 - 12:00 a.m.) we found no Titmice. I heard one singing from N bank where timber appeared to be broader.

Feb 8. 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas - (We arrived at the Gaines' farm on Barton Creek at 8:25 and descended into the canyon shortly, after a brief conversation with Mrs. Taylor Gaines. Texas oaks and elms were dominant as were various shrubs.



K Dixon

1952

Parus atricristatus

Jan 30 10 mi. NW Waco, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

Scattered birds - all, etc. Titmouse singing  
about 15 minutes after sunrise. Tit -  
(Tyr - ?) and then singing. I left at  
7:25 just as the sun came up. Titmouse singing  
in dense brush mostly in brush to north of house.  
One song type - - - - - the song to the song and  
response was di di - - - - - I noticed the  
individual was in a shrub in a glass of water  
apparently stimulated by singing from E of lateral road.  
Black nest pointed, erect; bird apparently alone.  
Song changed to slower kyta kyta kyta kyta  
(4 phrases per song) as I left.

I crossed road at 8:00 a.m. and into thinner  
cover of area near windmill where I worked March  
28, 1951. Trees (mesquite) were scattered, fewer than  
tall shrubs as (Diospyros?) - all trees leafless.

Along fence running  $\pm$  NE - SW, <sup>north</sup> ~~west~~ head of wind-  
mill, tit singing Tyr - - - - , answered by 2 others  
to E and N. I followed fence NE and heard tit  
W of fence calling sharply vet vet - - - - (5'4) nasal  
It moved now <sup>upward</sup> and then pecked at bark of branchlets  
in mesquite. Calling continued; song Tyr - - - -  
from denser brush along swale extending to E.  
A second titmouse appeared and calling ceased.  
One apparently left as my attention was diverted.  
I saw the second fly to mesquite  $\pm$  15 yards  
to NW - no call upon alighting. Song to SE.



Jan 30

as before and also to N along road.

I worked W along fence to gate and road leading E. I watched down road 50 yards to where birds were calling. One conspicuous in brush on E side of road calling red-rick — — — or vet-it — — — over and over — song to N and slightly farther E. I watched calling bird as it moved thru white-barked shrub (acacia or fruit, later in second phase of call note.) Bird gave many reddish tip chirps this short flight — reddish tip chirps to N. Note reddish tip chirps — reddish tip chirps into reddish tip chirps — reddish tip chirps road. — this pair near juniper-like shrub.

Triton pair which had answered now silent except for "location" notes — tip of one usually answered by softer tip of mate. When I sighted birds, they were farther from me than I had supposed they would be ( $\pm 50$  ft.) Exchange of vet vet calls farther to E — 2 other pairs engaged? Silence at 8:40

I moved along road to E a few yards after 8:50, then circled south and W toward fence, then along fence NE <sup>nearly</sup> to gate. Pair of titmice in mesquite trees, one called see see see vet vet, inornatus-like then both gave vet vet calls and Bewick Wren chimed in with rasping notes. I was not sure for a moment



K Dixon  
1952

atricristatus

Jan 30 11 mi. NWourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
whether or not this was a squabble involving  
members of 2 pairs. One bird moved nearer  
to me still giving chatter chet chet not  
vehement as sometimes is the case. I fired  
with a .22 which had no effect. Both birds  
flew W and continued o.c.s. I followed up and  
found them more wary. One however came toward  
me as though curious again and I took him  
(#652<sup>♂</sup>); no calls from mate. I worked thru  
brush carefully immediately, leaving 1<sup>st</sup> bird  
lie. I located second foraging in shrub 6 ft  
high - no notes. I took this bird; crest not  
so black as preceding (#653<sup>♀</sup>).

Song heard intermittently until 10:00 a.m., when  
I left area





K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Jan 31 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

OVERCAST, CALM, sun obscured. Birds much less evident than at this time yesterday. I drove to windmill where I hunted on April 28, 1951, arriving at 8:05. I walked down road and thru gate inside of which I had taken 652-653 pair yesterday. Continuing E a few yards I heard tsit notes rather audible and not subdued from both sides of road. To the S, I saw one bird in small-leaved shrub moving upward on ascending limb, pausing to pick at bark (<sup>branch</sup> diameter  $\pm$  1 inch). Presently I located his mate; former gave see see vet vet vet, first 2 notes high pitched, ~~thin~~ and flew to N 20 ft. Mate followed.

I turned attention to tsit notes still being given across road to N. One titmouse moving N, climbing upward in shrub, keeping up steady sequence of tsit notes, perhaps one every 3 seconds. See see see vet vet as I moved closer. From S (this side of road?) <sup>(=E?)</sup> song tyur — — — — —, repeated and individual I watched flew 30 ft to S. There it gave single tsit notes, then vet vet vet. I could see titmouse moving in shrubbery 20 yards S but N of road. Two pairs apparently... silent at 8:25.

At 8:35 song peer — — — from roadside a few yards to W. On S side of road near juniper like shrub pursuit was taking place, one bird flying to displace another or crossing above its perch. One bird flew N across road and one remaining began



K Dixon

Parus atricristatus

1952

Food - taking motions - January 31 - February 2.

11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas.

Height	Trunk	Branch	Twig	Leaf
--------	-------	--------	------	------

above 15'

12' - 15'

9' - 12'

6' - 9'

3' - 6'

0 - 3'

above 15'

12' - 15'

9' - 12'

6' - 9'

3' - 6'

0 - 3'

Ground

Mesquite

All other species



atricristatus

Jan 31. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 Ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
notes vet vet vet. Bird flew back from N of  
road and chased other again; latter retreated  
20 feet to S but followed aggressor back to roadside.  
Mate of aggressor remained N of road always  
and called vet vet or tsip rather steadily. On  
two occasions, S bird flew to N edge of road  
following N bird after a chase only to be repulsed.  
S bird always pursued aggressor to edge of  
road (S edge) but could not seem to hold that  
line — seemed definitely not dominant in our domain.  
On one occasion bird being pursued (S ♂ on own ground)  
fluttered wings. Only note given was vet vet vet  
which seemed to affect N ♂ as a challenge for  
whenever S bird backed this out, the road  
was crossed by N ♂ and another pursuit  
ensued.

I watched one bird foraging — may have been mate of  
S ♂ although no evidence of such bird during fights.  
Boundary wrangle continued silently but rather  
steadily until 9:10 — intermittently until 9:25 when  
I moved W

Call vet-it vet-it vet-it along fence N of gate  
answered by N bird to E. I worked along to  
W on N side of road led on by call vet vet of  
retreating female. At 9:37 I located pair  
in bush N of windmill. Song tür tür tür  
of ♂ in persimmon — mate in leafy shrub



K Dixon  
1952

trieristatus

Jan 31. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
flew to W about 100 ft and called vet vet vet  
♂ continued singing, moving into mesquite to S;  
song petta — — from E. Then after perhaps  
one minute, ♂ began thin plaintive see-see (coupled),  
and after 4 or 5 such calls, ♀ answered from  
W with vet vet vet; ♂ repeated see-see, see-see  
having ceased song altogether. Then he gave  
vet vet vet and ♀ answered tsit, tsit.  
Later ♀ gave vet vet again and ♂ flew to N to  
a mesquite 50 ft away from former site. I  
left at 9:40.

I walked E to cross-fence by 9:47, then NE along  
fence toward swale where I found pair yesterday at  
± 8:15. I walked clear to streambed and on return  
heard tsit sit notes from bush but found no  
titmice. Song payta — — from E as yesterday  
along swale.

Back to windmill at 10:05 without finding other  
titmice. Then song tyur tyur tyur to E at  
10:10. Nothing further so I worked S along cross-  
fence from road. SUN SHINING after 9:00 with  
wind from E, shifting to S after 10:00. WIND STRONG  
after 10:30.

I skulked thru brush trying to separate tsip  
notes of Cardinals and other birds. I located  
pair of titmice foraging along creek where I had hunted  
on Apr 28. Both birds gave tsip notes



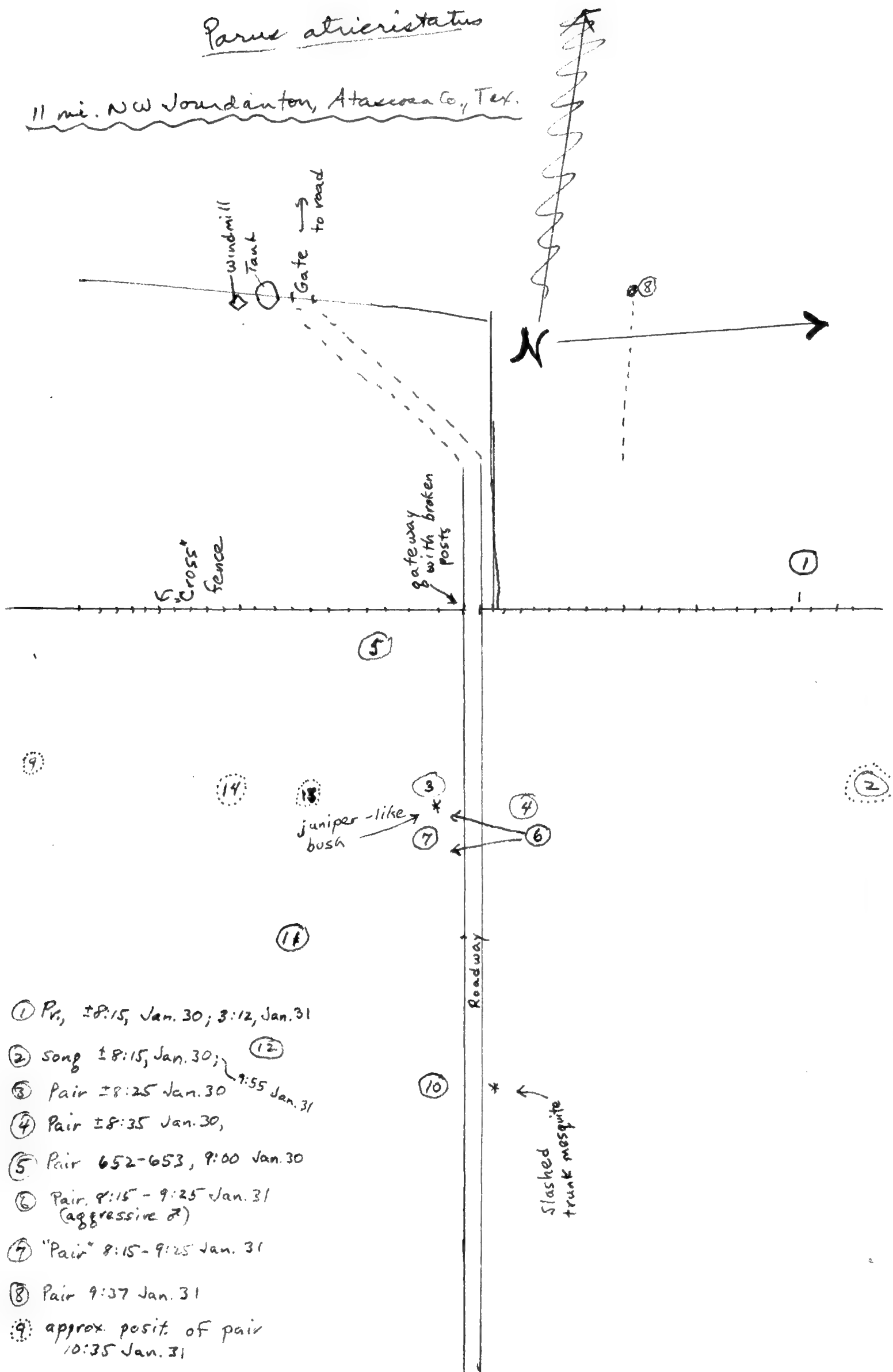


K Dixon  
1952

*Parus atricristatus*

Jan. 31

11 mi. NW Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., Tex.



① Pr, ±8:15, Jan. 30; 3:12, Jan. 31

② Song ±8:15, Jan. 30; ⑫

③ Pair ±8:25 Jan. 30 9:55 Jan. 31

④ Pair ±8:35 Jan. 30,

⑤ Pair 652-653, 9:00 Jan. 30

⑥ Pair, 8:15 - 9:25 Jan. 31  
(aggressive ♂)

⑦ "Pair" 8:15 - 9:25 Jan. 31

⑧ Pair 9:37 Jan. 31

⑨ approx. posit. of pair  
10:35 Jan. 31

⑩ Pair, 11:05, Jan. 31

⑪ ♂, 11:15 - 11:23 Jan. 31

⑫ ♂ singing 11:23 Jan. 31

⑬ Lone bird(?) 3:30, Jan. 31

⑭ Pair(?) 3:30 Jan. 31.



Jan 31

Song from E not answered. I determined that this pair was  $\pm 80$  paces (correction for line staggered thru brush) E of crossfence. I worked W of cross-fence after 10:40. No birds heard between creek and windmill W of fence by 10:55.

I watched E along road  $\pm 200$  yards - call of Titmouse to S of road answered by one to E. Later a few yds S of road where mesquite trunk split. Call Tsee tsee souh vet over and over answered by bird to SW (in kind) Mate of first bird with it foraging silently. 1st retreated to E gradually. Scolds from bird to SW at 11:08 - I followed latter in more open growth WIND STRONG -

one bird moving W seemed to be alone - gave tsee notes regularly and vet - exchanged see see si vut vut with a bird to E and kept up so much chatter I was unsure of whether a second tsee was with it. I watched this bird 11:15 - 11:23 as it foraged near base of a persimmon and in a mesquite - song tree - - - - - from E answered by <sup>this bird,</sup> huree - - - - - (8, 8, 8, 10 phrases per song) then no more song from this bird in response to song of other. I moved N toward road pacing 65 steps to road. Calls vet vet behind me as I left.

CLOUDY after 11:00



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Jan. 31. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas.

CLOUDY; WIND intermittent from S as I returned to area of morning's work at 3:00 pm. Titmouse singing E of crossfence and another to N of road along fence. I followed latter up and located birds W of fence at S edge of swale. This bird had moved E. I recorded number of phrases per song burst for this bird. Tyur tyur (3, 7, 7, 8, 7, 9, 10, 10, 10, 7, 8, 9, 9, 8, 10, 10, 2, 6) - song broken off even though ♂ to S singing. As I located pair at 3:12, ♂ began to sing from bare mesquite, peter — — — — — very rapid 7 and 8 phrases mostly.... this in answer to song from S (I thought there was one burst from SW also [pair seen at 9:35 today]). Mate of the singer was present, foraging near base of a ? persimmon. I left the area about 3:15 and worked S.

At 3:28 persistent singer SE of broken posts in cross fence initiated song peter — (6 and 7 phrases) Song (peter) also to SE of his position and to S as well (peer — — — —). I worked thru brush to place where one bird was holding forth, calling see see si vet vet. Bird to W answered vet vet and I heard tip of 2 birds there. They worked S and I lost them. Bird to E seemed to be alone and had feathers of occiput ruffled up as had the ♂ dominated by his aggressive neighbor this a.m.

During the late afternoon (at 4:20 and perhaps another time) ♂ in position of that lone(?) bird initiated



R Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Jan 31. 11 mi. NWourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
song. In one instance, it was answered briefly  
by bird to NE of him. All quiet as I left area  
at 5:30.

Frequency of occurrence of <sup>woody</sup> plants on a 200 foot line  
transect S by compass from mesquite yards  
of S gate post on cross fence at road

KLD	no.
466	4
467	1
468	4
469	1
470	4
471	20
472	3
473	2
	1
<u>Yucca</u>	3
<u>Opuntia</u> (prickly pear)	1
<u>Prosopis</u>	9





R Dixon  
1952

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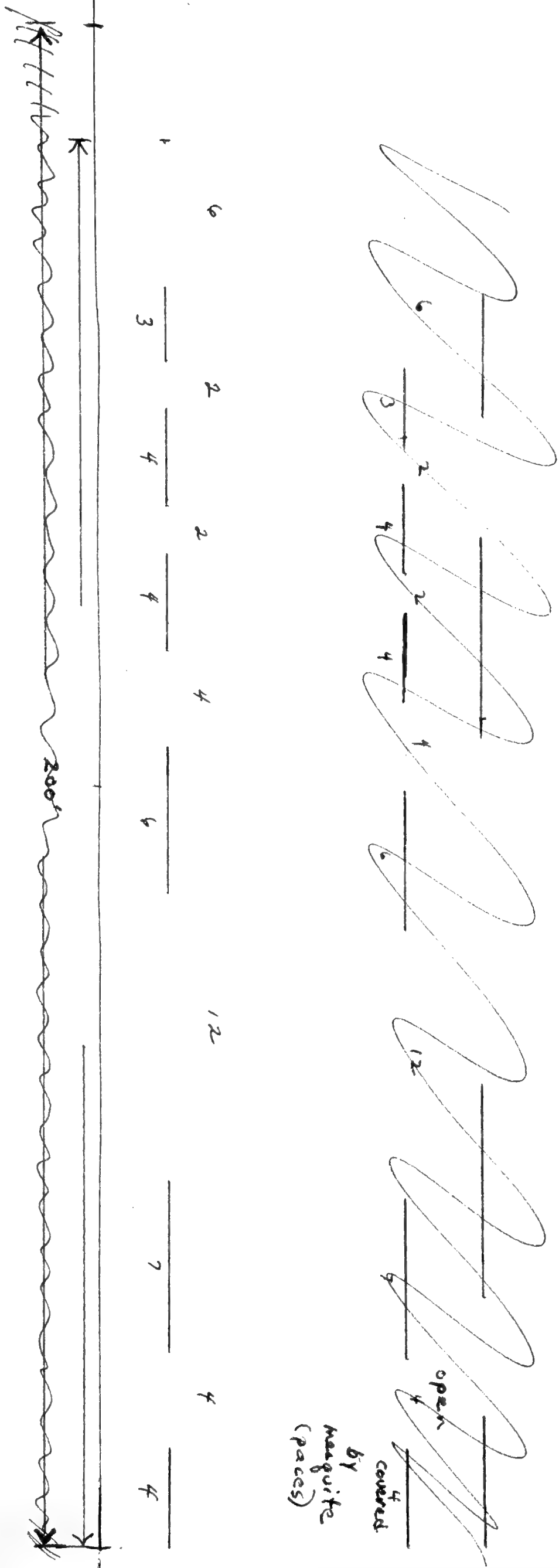
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K Dixon 1952

Jan. 31 11 mi. NWourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas





K Dixon  
1952

atricornatus

Feb 1 11 mi. NW Jourdan, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

LOW FOG; CALM; clear overhead. I walked E through mesquite toward scene of yesterday's study after 7:45. N of crossfence - road intersection to mouse singing answered by bird to east. Silent at 7:54

7:57 to mouse sang tree — — — — — 6' ± 20 yds SE of juniper-like shrub - lone male? Answer from E along road. At 8:00 exchange of song and vet vet notes a few yards E of slashed mesquite - pairs? on both sides of road. Exchange of calls continued - caller and silent mate on S side of road E of slashed mesquite exchanging calls with bird to SW. I watched former as they swung inward 10 yards S of road then NW across road. One started call see see si rut-out the last 2 notes somewhat coupled giving "swing" to end of call. This call duplicated by bird due S of position at 8:08. I checked on latter after 8:00 and located bird — mate present.

Song to NE at 8:14 so I followed up but bird became silent N of road so I abandoned chase.

I walked W along road — song NW of slashed mesquite at 8:23 pet — — — — — no answer. I proceeded to juniper-like shrub and then N thru brush. Song to E, the 8:23 singer presumably the 8:08 ♂ N of road. Silent at 8:27

I ran onto a pair foraging, the ♂ working mesquite branches, the ♀, shrub branches near ground. I shot at ♀ after ♂ sang in tree and missed. She flew S and gave vet vet call. I followed ~~here~~ in circle to



atricristatus

Feb 1. 11 mi NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas

Ward N. ♂ called Tsit frequently and followed along. Pair foraged in live oak, presumed ♀ scolding all the while. I left at 8:45 and went due S to road about 75 yards (estimate)

8:48 exchange of calls a few yards E of cross fence. see si vet vet not particularly <sup>aggressive</sup> One bird in mesquites of my line transect, other N of road neither accompanied. Both drifted off in about 5 minutes.

Bird S of road moved W of fence then S and exchanged song with bird to SSW (near creek bed I judged) Bird seemed alone, crossed E of fence at 9:00 and worked E in territory of 652-653. I paced N to road 65 steps then worked ESE into brush to intercept bird. This bird exchanged calls see si vet vet with a bird to S. I worked W between the two then S of S bird. This was  $\pm$  20 yards N of oaks along creek where I had seen a pair yesterday about 10:30. Two birds present one giving scold as I drew near. The other sang peer peer peer then followed the scolder. I worked along following them and noted new pair in mesquite undergrowth with <sup>perambulation</sup>. One was calling and I took it with a 1/2 load, thinking it was the ♀. This bird (660 ♂) fell and the other flew N and did not return. (9:14).

I worked N after preparing this bird and at (41)  
9:26 sighted ~~skunk~~ mouse singing Tym - - -





K Dixon  
1952

Feb 1 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas

I walked N to road as this bird flew E, wary of me and seemingly alone. His position was due S of juniper-like shrub along road. I worked in a <sup>semi-</sup>circle to the east and came upon the bird again. Calls and one burst of song but long periods of tsit notes evenly spaced. Once see-see (anxiety over my presence?) Eventually I winged this bird (6618) with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  load and nipped him with a .38. Finally retrieved it after a merry chase thru the brush. Tit had been foraging in "saltbush" within 4 ft of ground and on mesquite trunk.

I went to gate in crossfence and left coat at 9:50 hanging in mesquite. I walked S to juniper-like shrub, then SEasterly listening for titmouse calls. I crossed two open cactus patches and reached the dry creekbed, narrow but deeply cut  $\pm 6$  ft in depth. I heard tsit note and saw one titmouse foraging on mesquite limb beyond <sup>live</sup> oaks on bank. Other calls along creek a few yards west. I crossed creekbed gingerly but couldn't locate titmouse there. Notes still heard upstream sit sit - . I tried to imitate whistle tree tree tree and induced bird to come flying toward me immediately. He veered off somewhat to the right of me, then flew in closer and began song tree - - - . I looked for his mate to take her but couldn't line up a shot before he flew to a perch in tree where she was and then followed her up stream. I worked along the S bank slowly, listening, and whistled once; no response.







K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

- Feb 1. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, 700 ft., Atascosa Co., Texas  
and I heard a melodious note somewhat like the  
see-yor given by inornatus ♂. I could ~~see~~ <sup>detect</sup> no  
response on the part of the ♀ and the ♂ flew upward  
immediately and sang. After this I fired at ♀.  
(Written Feb. 2)].
- Feb 2. CLEAR, COOL. BREEZE came up from an Easterly  
direction after sunrise and was stronger by  
8:00 a.m. I walked west of cabin on S side of  
Hwy 173 and located calling titmouse moving NW  
rather rapidly. Eventually (7:45) I overtook this  
bird exchanging vet vet calls with another bird.  
The former moved N toward road and I followed  
other bird. It was mated, the silent individual  
moving along with the noisy one, infrequently  
giving tip notes. The talkative bird led the way  
in a SW direction keeping up the vet vet scolding  
possibly as a challenge. The presumed ♀ did not  
always keep up with her mate, tarrying to forage,  
once giving scolding note. The ♂ foraged seldom  
so I recorded food taking motions as I could observe  
them for the ♀. (recorded on sheet for ~~for~~ <sup>such data</sup>)  
I followed this pair, 7:50 - 8:25, then lost sight  
of them and returned to the house. I was left  
with a strong impression that the ♂ was setting  
the route to be followed. About 8:20, the ♀  
disappeared into some shrubbery near the trunk  
of a live oak. I heard a volley of sit sit sit



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

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Feb 2.

notes and the ♂ flew into that oak, on to the trunk nearby. He then moved up into the tree and I couldn't tell that anything went on there. I found a broken off branch, healed over but with no real cavity.

About 8:35, I located another pair moving N from a point SE of the house. The birds went into a large liveoak NE of house and W of windmill. Again one bird was talkative and the other foraged more steadily. I noted some attention to oak leaves on the part of the latter. The birds then flew to liveoak on W side of house and the ♂, calling vet-vet-vet, circled N and E to liveoak W of tank. I had lost track of ♀ meanwhile but saw her in liveoak, foraging. A third ♂ was present and mild "approach-threat" was directed toward presumed first "♂" in tree (one with mate, here earlier, no real struggle nor exchange of song. Two birds flew ~~to~~<sup>S</sup>, followed by a third, all going to liveoak SE of house. Then 2 birds together, after foraging briefly in live oak (twig in one case), moved quickly thru brush to next liveoak to S. I left them there at 8:55 with an impression that liveoaks may be of considerable importance for foraging although they are only scattered or concentrated along stream courses here. The foraging observations thus recorded may



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 2. 11 mi. NW Jourdanton, Atascosa Co., Texas  
not reflect fully the range of foraging sites used,  
since the bird's activities are best seen in upper  
levels of the leafless mesquites. Most checking are  
records from dense low brush, noted by A. H. Miller.



K. Dixon

1952

Feb. 3 Mayhaw Creek, 15 mi. W Bastrop, Bastrop Co., Texas.

CLEAR OVERHEAD but HAZE ABOVE SOUTHERLY horizon; sun dim. WIND STRONG FROM NW, about 12 mph. I left our camp on Mr. Schankels' ranch and began to look for the nest of the bicolor pair in mesquite E of earth dam. I was not able to find it at once so I moved S of road at 8:50. Working thru the <sup>leafless</sup> mesquite to leafless elms along low-lying area, I walked E. I was somewhat confused by the winter aspect here and could not find landmarks. Eventually I reached broken-down fence and roadway driven over last evening. I went NW and came to clearing for telephone wires I had noted earlier. Then I went SSW, eventually reaching a N-S road, presumably one which goes to intersection W of Schankels' home. I worked E in some of bottomland and eventually sighted a titmouse among other birds low in an elm. I recorded food-taking motions of this bird on another page. It worked on elm trunk within 4 ft. of ground for most part and seemed to find food in deep furrows in bark. Objects whitish and smaller than a dime were taken several times, perhaps spiders or insect egg cases. This bird appeared to be a very normal bicolor with black frontlet. It foraged silently for the most part although I saw another titmouse in the same tree once when bird I was watching flew 20 ft to N. The only note I heard the titmouse give was a scratching,



Feb 3. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 6000 ft, Bastrop Co., Texas

Tease tschk-day, the latter note prolonged. Other birds noted near, although not constituting a flock, were Carolina Chickadee, Myrtle Warbler, R-c and G-c Kinglets, Field Sparrow.

The titmouse worked farther N 30 or 40 ft and worked in Berberis momentarily, hopped along the ground between 2 elms along with 2 Field Sparrows, then moved up to low twig with what appeared to be a cocklebur; this the bird began to hammer at. After a session of battering with the bill and looking up after each blow, the bird flew higher in tree (to 5 ft) where twigging was more dense.

It shifted perch once more, then dropped what may have been the seedcase, now lacking spines.

This bird then hopped higher in elm and began a high pitched, rather weak see tee tee tee rather thin. This it repeated several times with bill opened wide; apparently air was being expelled although without great effort. Answer from SE a matter of 8-10 yds., see tee of similar quality. After an exchange, the first altered its call to see tee tee eh (rather abrupt ending). After a few seconds, the first moved to tree N and was joined by second. This latter seen bird was somewhat more brownish on the frontlet but otherwise a bicolor. I was impressed by the black bill and forehead of presumed or contracted to whitish area around black eye.





Feb 3. 15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

I left that pair of titmice at 10:35 and moved SE. within perhaps 25 yards I came to an opening and crossed it. In low elms there (15-18 ft)

I encountered another pair of titmice. One gave a call see-lib-pay somewhat liquid and Carolina Chickadee like. Contact note see given. Appearance was about like the first pair.

Call see see see see given by one bird as I drew near - anxiety? I watched one tit on lateral branch of elm acting as though "freezing" there in motionless posture. I waited, motionless, and soon the bird turned perpendicular to branch and eventually flew to next tree N. I left at 10:43.

Then I circled to E and N to dry brook course. There about 10 yards upstream from small earth dam I encountered a Titmouse accompanied by a second. They flew W into a large elm, where a 3rd tit appeared and chased one to E, returning to elm himself. I could not follow events subsequently with understanding. There was a chase into smaller elms to SW and some further pursuit in tree there. One bird seemed to be aggressor here and flew at other, essentially "approach-threat" with no display or notes but occupancy of perch at or near that of bird forced to fly. Notes sit-sit-sit-sit always accompanied such action and I was able to verify that this was given by bird being chased. I saw no tail movement of aggressor



Feb-3

15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

and once heard sit sit sit given by bird flying in retreat across open 40 ft or so to NE. During this action I heard song purty purty purty purty mostly 5 phrases per song and keyta — — — — 5 and mostly 6 phrases. No song I could attribute to participants. I am not sure there were not more than 4 birds involved in fighting; all birds may not be paired yet. This action ceased by about 11:00 and no further calls heard although I spent 30 minutes in area, seated writing notes. There was no singing in answer to the songs of the bird which had started singing to NW of the quarrel.

I left the area at 11:35 and worked N toward road. I heard no Titmice in any of the mesquite or mixed mesquite-elm areas away from the stream.

I left camp at 1:00 pm, working areas S of road to same elm patch along brook course, returning at 2:20. About 1:20 I heard song from area NW of earth dam — no answer. There was another Titmouse in same area with Carolina Chickadee, Golden-crowned Kinglet (2). I did not encounter Titmice at any other time during the afternoon.



K Dixon  
1952

Food-taking motions, February 3 -  
15 mi. W Bastrop, 600 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas

Height	Trunk	Branch	Twig	Leaf
above 15'				
12' - 15'				
9' - 12'				
6' - 9'	Hardwoods			
3' - 6'	Hardwoods			
0' - 3'	Hardwoods	"	"	

---

Ground |||| ||||

---

above 15'

12' - 15' All other woody plants  
9' - 12'  
6' - 9'  
3' - 6'

0 - 3' |||| |||| |||| |||| ||||

Aerial ||



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 8. Barton Creek, 4 mi SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

CLEAR, CALM. Elm bottomland 8:45 song peer — —  
(3 and 4 phrases per song burst) — then vet vet  
Mate silent, well up in same tree, picking at large object  
held between feet. I fired at her with .38, damaging  
wing, for she flew to next tree E and picked at wing.  
♂ had flown to 2<sup>nd</sup> tree S after shot. I fired at ♀ with  
.38 by mistake and she flew into next tree E. ♂ flew SW  
and sang. I finally downed ♀ with 1/2 load; she was  
unhurt save for broken wing and gave cry see-ah —  
— — when handled. I stroked her head and  
she gave that cry which attracted Robini, a Gray Fox  
and finally her cautious mate. I fired at him and  
he flew N, later singing from cottonwood W peer — — —.  
I extinguished ♀ (694) regretfully and followed ♂. He  
sang from tree near fence, then crossed stream. I follow-  
ed and stood screened from view (I thought). He started  
scold vet — — — — and shifted perch. I stalked  
him in elm-juniper and took him (695) after  
he began to sing again peter — — — — (52)  
at 9:20. No answering song except well downstream.

Song downstream after 9:30 — peter — — — — — (72).  
I worked upstream along base of hill: elm-juniper with  
some live oak. Titmouse singing in junipers peter — —  
(5 phrases per song invariably). I watched him from  
9:50 until 10:00, catching glimpses now and then  
as he moved through the junipers. (No satisfactory  
observations). I was not able to detect mate's presence.  
Bird sang here — — — — (4's) as I left





K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 8. 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas

I walked N after 10:00 searching elm - Texan oak grove where I took pair (♂ & ♀) last April. No birds heard in this area so I worked up side draw to W where juniper had been cut. Song heard once well upslope but ~~titmice~~ generally silent. WIND INCREASED AFTER 10:00. AT 10:45 I walked upslope to the "mesa" top where I heard ~~titmice~~ singing. There was an exchange of song in juniper and liveoak N of a grassy double-fenced pasture. I located one pair of ~~titmice~~ in a liveoak at 10:50 and watched their foraging activities (♂, 2 minutes, ♀ 4 min.):

twig 11  
fruit 1  
branch ~~1111~~ ~~1111~~ ~~1111~~  
leaf 1

} Both birds appeared to be equally dark-crested when seen through binoculars

The ♂ flew to liveoak W at 10:52 and sang peter--- (6 phrases per song burst). ♀ gave note tsivet or tsih-vet as he sang. Both gave location notes tsit. I lost track of birds as they flew W at 10:54 but saw one bird pick at object on mesquite trunk (in direction they had gone) at 10:58. This bird flew to liveoaks S of fence. ♂ there sang tyur--- 12 phrases per song group. The ♂ to the N answered but ceased singing first. I followed that pair. The birds were foraging in a juniper, although their activities were concealed for the most part. They spent a full minute in the juniper, then flew N



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 8 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
into small liveoak. One bird seemed to be leading the way, flying to liveoak  $\pm 10$  yards ahead, calling vet vet vet. The other was slow to follow, after  $\frac{1}{2}$  min. flying to elm and then into liveoak. I took this bird (♀, 696). The other flew to liveoaks to E of perch then occupied, shifted uneasily to next clump of oaks E calling vet vet vet continuously. I waited for an opening and took this bird (♂, 697) at 11:15.

The other pair remained in liveoaks S of double fence and my imitation of whistle "heer" did not bring him out. I walked E and downslope after 11:25; ~~observed~~ singing as I left, although definitely a mated bird.

Titmouse were not to be heard along base of hill or in area of "bench" north of stream which cuts across. (This area largely juniper, some elm and liveoak.) At 11:50, I was walking along a path and noted a Titmouse foraging on a juniper branch overhanging the path. I took this individual and then waited. Soon I heard a scold vet vet from junipers N. A Titmouse eventually flew to a perch within my view but saw me and flew E; I followed along an opening in the brush. Titmouse scold changed to song pe-te---- (mostly 5 phrases). I whistled and bird answered but did not approach. It kept retreating as I tried to stalk it. I abandoned chase at about 12:05 and took care of downed bird (698). Then I approached the singing bird from due S and again had it answer my whistle and resume singing under that



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 8. 4 mi. SW Austin, 500 ft., Travis Co., Texas  
stimulus after it had once stopped. The junipers  
it resorted to were dense and the bird did not come  
out of hiding. (I was reminded of an inornatus ♂ on  
his territory waiting and letting the intruder take  
the initiative). I abandoned this stalking at  
12:15 although bird still singing as I left.

[ Titmice were singing in the Gaines farm yard  
after 12:30 as we departed. ]

I had supposed the ♂ singing at 12:15 was the  
mate of 698 and that the latter was ♀. Autopsy  
showed that 2 ♂♂ must have been involved.

I agree with Dr. Miller that these birds sing more  
and later in the day (under similar amount of windiness)  
than do the bicolor in area 15 mi W Bastrop. Miller  
noted one singing ♂ at edge of junipers along large bend  
in creek. He followed it into junipers and moved ahead  
only to hear it singing behind him in streamside elms.  
This and other observations led us to believe that  
the titmice use the junipers but also need the other  
types of trees as well. The long stringers of <sup>trunk</sup> bark  
without deep crevices do not afford foraging surface  
such as the check-barked junipers in the Chisos  
mts.



K Dixon

1952

Parus bicolor - atricristatus

Feb 9. 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas

I reached this area along Onion Creek by driving along Hwy 290 for 2.2 miles W of Garfield, then N about 1/2 mile to the end of that road. I met the owner, Mr. Smart, and obtained his permission to hunt small birds in the trees with .38 shot shells. I drove through his pastures down to the bottomland at 8:30 A.M. [Titmice had been singing in remnants of deciduous oak - juniper woods near his house on the bench above the river valley]. CLEAR, WARM, CALM all morning. I heard a pair of titmice along a small tributary and followed them down to the main creek; I was never within range and they crossed the creek where it was  $\pm 20$  ft wide. I saw one individual of this pair through the binoculars - crest blackish.

The streambank timber is well developed here. Trees I could recognize included cottonwoods, sycamore, willow and elm (leaf 1 1/2" - 2" long) In some places upstream it is thinned out; in others there is a dense tangle of underbrush and lianas.

600 2  
700 5  
After losing sight of the first pair encountered, I worked upstream on the south bank. I heard a titmouse call once, then heard no more. I walked along slowly and at length encountered 2 titmice. I downed one (699) and started to follow the other. He was wary, scolded me, then began song peer - - - - 5's. I took him (700, ♂) at about 9:15.

I worked upstream cautiously for perhaps 300 yards, the stream flowing in a northerly direction at this point.





Feb 9. 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle

The timber strip was narrower here, chiefly willows, with small oaks and elms covering a sloping bank rising 20 ft. above the stream. No ~~tit~~ mice heard until the stream opened to the W. somewhat. After some pioneering in the denser brush and lianas, I crossed the creek where it was dry at 9:45. Because of the stagnant appearance of the water, I consider it possible that the water in the creek now is merely backed up from the Colorado. Working upstream along the north bank, I heard songs of two ~~tit~~ mice across the stream. I re-crossed farther up at 10:00 and began to follow the more persistent singer. This led me up a steep bank and through a mesquite - thorn - prickly pear covered slope in order to reach the streamside timber to which the ~~tit~~ mouse had moved. Bird appeared to be alone, singing steadily pee-deer — — — in 5's. I chased him up the S bank, then across the stream where I fired at him a second time. He returned to the S bank and worked upslope through some scrubby post oaks. I took him there as he was singing from a conspicuous perch at 10:30 (705, ♂). No evidence of mate during this time.

I worked downstream to point on S bank where I had first heard 705 sing. Working carefully through woods on the S bank, I came upon a pair of ~~tit~~ mice.

They were foraging and giving tsit notes. I fired at one — no effect. This bird flew E among low



Feb 9 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle

elms while mate worked upslope into similar growth. Latter kept vet vet vet scolding going and there were occasional answers from the other bird. I left the one upslope and started to work over to other, believing it wounded.

Other bird started to move toward the one fired at first and then changed course to W. I followed and fired at it in scrubby elm. I followed scolding bird upslope 25 yards; it perched in small elm and picked at plumage and scolded. I took this bird there (701 ♂)

Working downslope about 11:00, I followed other bird as it moved downstream a few yards, always wary and scolding. I fired at it in tall cottonwood and bird flew N across stream. Fortunately I could cross and did. Then I searched upstream and down; I heard a tseet and a thwance flew to next tree and perched there silent. I took it <sup>at 11:10</sup> (702, ♀). Birds behavior appeared to have changed following shot made on S bank. Several tail feathers missing.

I worked downstream on S bank but heard no thwice until I reached point of crossover at 9:45. Then I heard song peer peer peer peer peer from downstream. I was not certain which bank so I crossed (at bend) and walked down W side — bird on E so I crossed back at 11:30 and worked down and into small elms and oaks. Hearing no further calls, I stopped and made repeated hissing noises. A variety of small birds reforded but the thwice gave not one note. I continued downstream



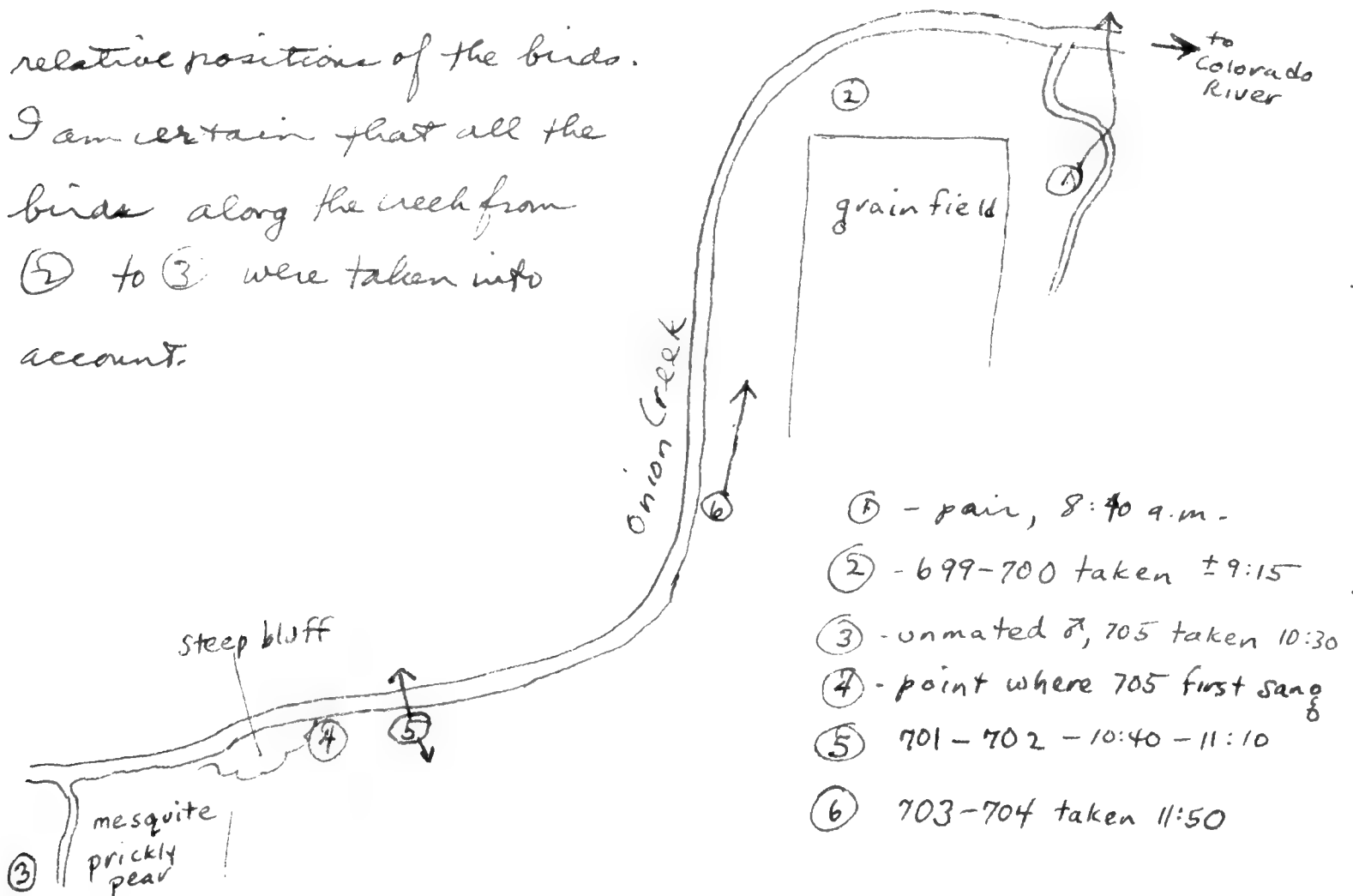
Feb 9. 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle

for 100 yards or so and heard a soft tsit. I located a titmouse 30 feet upslope and fired at it with a .38 — bird flew N and so did mate. I followed cautiously and heard another such note about 30 ft farther N. Titmouse on small branch in .38 range so I took it, (♀, 704). Then I waited fully 5 minutes, listening before I started looking for the mate. I whistled heer — — and obtained no response. Finally, walking along higher on the bank I saw the mate lying dead about 15 ft upslope from 704. This bird, 703 ♂ was a near-bicolor while the mate had a pale frontal patch suggestive of the Victoria County birds.

The sketch map shows approx.

relative positions of the birds.

I am certain that all the birds along the creek from ② to ③ were taken into account.





H Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor - atricristatus

Feb 9. 2 1/2 mi. ESE Del Valle,

Singing was intermittent throughout the morning. Pairs 699-700 and 703-704 were quiet and difficult to locate. The latter 2 birds were foraging low in scrubby elms of creek bank when taken.

~~Feb 10. 15 mi W Bastrop~~

Feb 11 3 mi ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas —

CALM — scattered clouds. I drove down to the bottomland S of Onion Creek on the property of Mr. Herbert Smart at 8:20. (Mr. Smart is a lawyer who practices in Austin, I was told by his employee). I worked down the tributary which joins Onion Creek from the S. Titmouse singing along creek across grainfield to W of tributary. (This area about where pair 703-704 was taken yesterday) Answer from upslope to S of me. I heard song peta — — — — and worked downstream. Titmouse scolded vet vet vet — birds moved down and across corner of field to streambank trees near scooped out watering place. I approached cautiously — pair in leafless tree; ♂ flew to next tree ± 8 ft E and sang. I shot at ♀ with .38 and she darted W into tree ± 35 ft away and I lost sight of her. ♂ sang one song group. I walked W looking for ♀ and then saw a titmouse perched on a branch looking W in vicinity where bird shot at hat gone. I fired at this bird and downed it; its cries when handled brought no response from the other bird. No calls of any sort 8:50 — 9:10 as I searched for mate of bird taken (709, a ♂) No trace of mate so I worked downstream.





R Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor - atricristatus

Feb 11 3 mi ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas

I worked downstream along the S bank of Onion Creek after 9:15; no calls heard until I reached mouth of creek. I heard a call chivut and saw 2 titmice moving through trees. I couldn't distinguish sex from actions at the time. One bird flew to next tree upstream (general direction of travel) and I took the remaining bird (711 ♀). The other flew to next trees, scolded, shifted perch, then sang. I took it (710 ♂).

I remained in this area for a few minutes, then worked down the S bank of the Colorado River. Perhaps 50 yards below the mouth of Onion Creek, I heard a song peta — — —. This was answered by a bird from across the river and by another titmouse a hundred yards or so farther downstream. I worked along into the territory of the first bird and watched it for a time as it sang from high in the cottonwoods. Bird seemed to be alone as it shifted perch from one tree to another and it sang more steadily than did its neighbors.

Then I saw 2 titmice fly due E from cottonwood and over my head as though a pursuit was in course. The birds disappeared to E but I heard a chorus of tsit — — — notes almost a twitter from that direction. Nothing further for a couple of minutes so I began whistling heer — — —. A titmouse flew toward my position from the E and perched almost above me, silent but fluttering its wings. Then it flew S to another tree crossing



Feb 11. 3 mi. ESE Del Valle.

712 a few feet to the E of me. Then the bird flew across the path in a NW direction and began to sing. I fired at it twice with .38 without apparent concern to the bird. A third shot brought it down (712, ♂). No other titmouse noted immediately afterward.

After 10:30 I worked back up Onion Creek to point where I had taken 709. Further search revealed no trace of a second titmouse so I started up tributary.

A squabble between 2 pairs of chickadees was in progress and beyond them a titmouse scolded. I approached and fired with a .38. The bird flew W and I tried a load of 10's - bird worked down the tributary, scolding. I followed to Onion Creek where I heard scold and saw 2 titmice fly back up tributary as I maneuvered for a shot. I followed again and caught up with a scolding titmouse. I whistled and it answered and appeared excited although never fluttering wings. I waited to see other bird but never located it. Meanwhile enthusiasm of singer waned and I lost track of it. I left area at 11:20.

Titmouse singing from base of hill as I drove up.

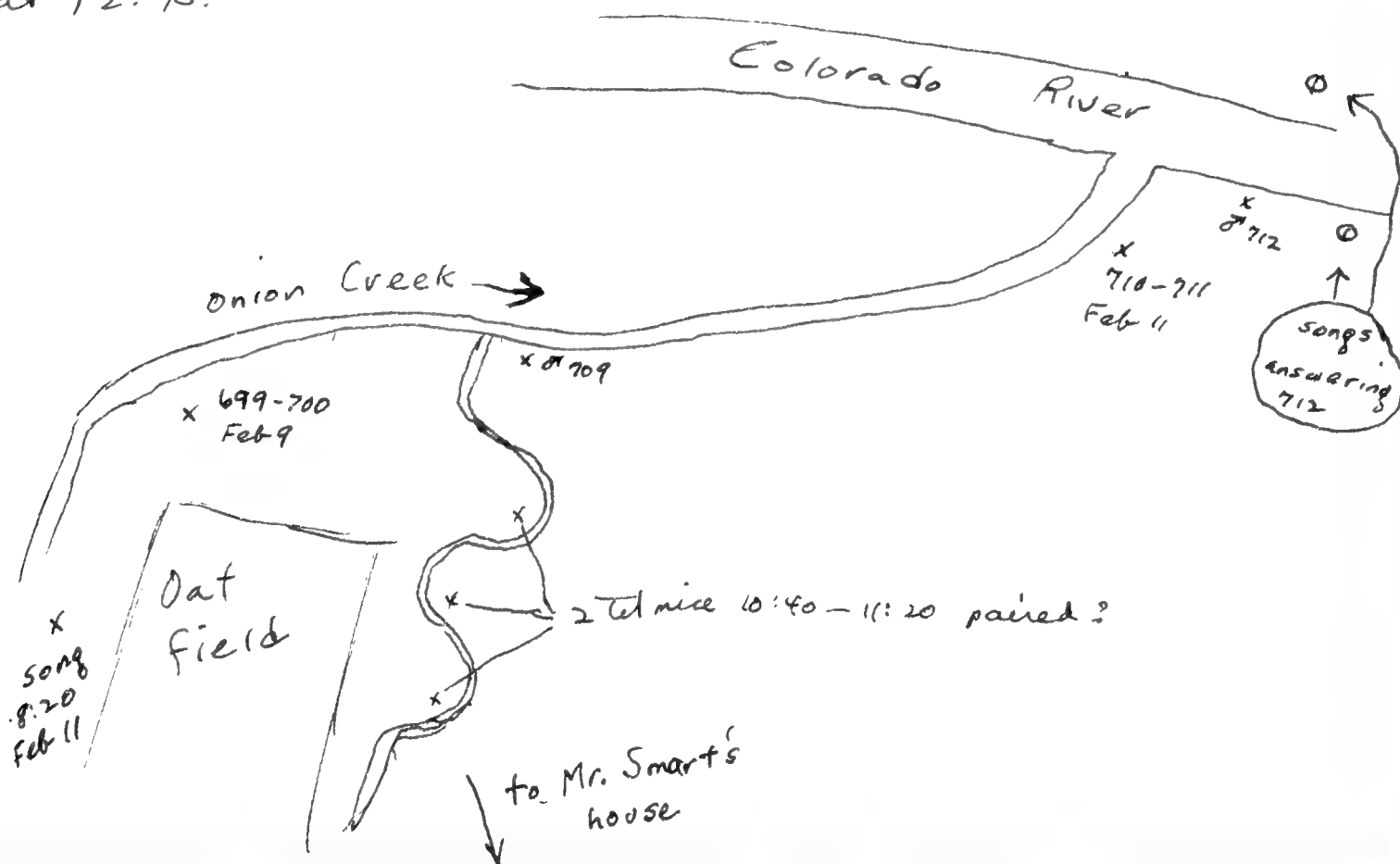
I worked along the level "mesa" top after 11:45 - growth of deciduous oaks, junipers, elms; titmouse singing from several scattered points. The grove of deciduous oaks and elms and of junipers lay at the W end of an open pasture. The grove was a narrow fringe at the W edge of the mesa and



Feb. 11 3 mi. ESE Del Valle

spilled over down the slope leading to Onion Creek. On the slope, oaks were less numerous and elms much more so. I heard persistent singing from the junipers  $\pm 50$  yards S of barn and followed this lead. Bird sang peter - - - and answered my whistle, then scolded. Song and scolding were alternated subsequently. I could see the bird low in the juniper-elm growth. Another titmouse, silent, bicolor-like, appeared in a juniper within  $\pm 15$  ft of me, perching near the top. I fired with a .22 and it flew W rapidly. I followed up quickly and saw two titmice moving along close to ground down a slope to the SW. A third titmouse, from the position where singer had been, moved along and joined them, the three seeming to get along amicably.

I worked S after 12:00, whistling with little success. Titmouse sang across pasture to E and ~~also~~<sup>out</sup> well to the S of my position. I returned to area occupied by the threesome but could stir up no response so I left at 12:15.





K Dixon

1952

Parus bicolor

Feb. 12 7 mi. NW Bastrop, 300 ft., Bastrop Co., Texas - Area of extensive juniper woods N of the Colorado River near the post office at Utley. This area may be reached by driving about 2 miles W of Bastrop on Hgwy 290, turning north part way up the hill. The crossing of the Colorado is made via the "High" Bridge. [We had driven to the area by heading E from Austin on a Farm Road; tree growth in the uplands was fairly continuous affording a route for interchange of individuals of eastern and western populations.]

OVERCAST cleared at 9:30; wind increased after 11:00. We reached this area about 9:45 and I started stalking a ♂ singing in a row of deciduous trees along the border of a field in the bottomland several feet below the level of the juniper woods. I shot at the ♂ and then at the ♀. The latter sat motionless in a small oak while I reloaded but then she disappeared. The ♂ had flown N ± 40 yards and resumed singing in answer to ♂ farther E. I located him and took him (718). I thought I heard bird drop and looked for his mate. This bird was in same tree and flew down to limb close to main trunk ± 15 feet up. I took her (719). Both birds bicolor-like. No further activity in this area.

I worked along in junipers inside E edge of woodland after 10:30 taking a pair of Centurus in blackjack oak there. I heard no titmice until after 11:00 a.m. when there was a burst of song keyta — — — from 50 yards W of truck.

I followed up but got nowhere. Song again and scold vet vet vet as I approached; bird disappeared.





Feb 12. 7 mi. NW Bastrop

This individual (or one from same open area of juniper with a few deciduous oaks) sang infrequently and gave only one or two song groups. It scolded again as I tried to stalk it at 11:30 and would not answer my whistle heer heer heer or a faster whistle I attempted. I went on to stalking lizards and jays. About 12:20 I heard whistle keyta — — — from same area and started walking toward source. Titmouse scolded from nearer to me so I whistled. Bird moved to two junipers in succession and then into blackjack along roadway  $\pm$  20 yds S of truck. The titmouse moved up in oak and began to sing keyta — — — (bird in this area always sang 4 phrases per group) I took the bird then (720) On dissection, the titmouse proved to be a ♀ and was in all probability the mate of the large (♂?) taken by Dr. Miller in tree beside the truck about 10:00. This is the first proven instance of singing of a ♀ that I have experienced (but see Miller's notes). The bird sang only the one type of song, infrequently and for brief periods and would not answer my imitation as many males have.

We left area at 12:45. Dr. Miller took 4 titmice here some of them well within the juniper woodland. The growth here is dense and the junipers are large, some growing to at least 30 ft in height. Soil somewhat sandy — many downed trees at E edge of grove, some of which may be oaks.



K Dixon  
1952

Parus bicolor — atricristatus

Feb 13. 3 mi. ESE Del Valle, 300 ft., Travis Co., Texas — SUNNY  
and CLEAR after rain of something over 1 inch during night.  
CALM until about 9:30. We worked on Mr. Smart's ranch,  
driving S and then W of barn and corral into an extensive  
area of mesquite brush. Dr. Miller worked downslope into  
elm-juniper of tributaries draining N into Onion Creek  
upstream from the bottomland I worked Feb 11. I went  
S and E into a dense woodland of somewhat scrubby  
postoak-blackjack-juniper-elm. I heard no titmouse  
in immediate vicinity and worked E to where trees  
ranged to 15-18 ft in height. Here, at the W border of  
the pasture lying W of entry road, I heard a titmouse.  
I worked carefully through trees and whistled in answer  
to the 5-phrase song. The bird moved toward me and  
paused  $\pm$  15 ft away, silent. I took the bird after  
a pause, fairly sure from having followed it that  
the bird was alone. It was a typical atricristatus-  
type ♂ (724) which had been singing steadily (5-7 phrases)

I went N along narrow grove of timber W of pasture  
No songs and no response to my whistle until I was about  
50 yds N of barn. In this area I encountered a singing  
bird where I have seen 3 titmice together on Feb 11.  
The bird sang steadily peer — — (3 to 5 phrases)  
answered by one E of Smart's house and one in woods  
across pasture to E (4th member had been ♂ 724)  
I whistled and bird answered. I waited and listened  
and saw a titmouse chase a Carolina Chickadee. I  
watched the titmouse which seemed to be alone and



Feb 13. 3 mi. ESE Del Valle, 400 ft., Travis Co., Texas

725 ♀  
oblivious of singing bird. I took this bird, <sup>(725)</sup> wounding it in such a way that it was voiceless. No response from any other bird and ♂ continued to sing. I stalked him and took him (726). Mate relationship is assumed on the basis of advanced state of ovary of 725 and fact that she was taken about 20 feet from song posts of 726. I heard no other tidmice in the area W of the pasture although Dr. Miller took one across the draw on the slope W of one where 726 sang. Density in ridge-top oak-juniper seems to be sparse.

726 ♂



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 16. 2 mi. W Mineral Wells, 1000 Ft., Palo Pinto Co., Texas

I arrived at the ranch of Mr. I.C. Taylor about 10:30 a.m. and obtained permission to hunt for Titmice on the slope behind his house. The area lay on the south side of a shelf-like bench perhaps 50-75 feet higher than the surrounding area. The slope leading up to this terrace was rocky and both slope and the level crest were grown with post oak and blackjack with considerable underbrush and scattered junipers. Stature of the trees was not great, perhaps 15 ft. OVERCAST partly CLEARED, Breeze from N variable. I hunted over this "brushy post oak" land for an hour and 20 minutes after 10:45. Titmice were not numerous; apparently 3 pairs occupied the crest of the slope over a distance of  $\pm 250$  yds. I located 2 pairs in a dispute, fired at one individual which was unharmed.

Later, to the NW, I heard song peer — — — — (3 to 5 phrases) answered by rapid petur tyur tyur (7 to 9 phrases per song group). I stalked the birds and came close to former as latter was withdrawing to NW. This bird seemed to be alone — I fired at 30 at it and the bird scolded — I followed the now wary male and took it in an oak with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  load (737).

Working to the E I heard a dispute in progress about 11:50 in dense oak area. Members of the 2 pairs drifted apart as I approached and talkative member of 1 pair scolded me as I followed. I fired at one (silent) Titmouse hammering at an object





Feb 16. 2 mi W Mineral Wells, 1000 ft., Palo Pinto Co., Texas  
while perched on twig close to trunk of a blackjack  
about 4 ft above ground. (♀, 738). This bird fell  
and mate moved to S and E, circling to point 20 ft  
S of where mate had been. Bird continued vet vet  
vet and worked E slowly. I took him (739) about  
30 ft to E.



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 14. 7 mi. S Ranger  $\pm$  1700 ft., Eastland Co., Texas

The Jameson Ranch property lies along the Leon River and includes the lower portion of Colony Creek which flows into the Leon from the N. Cover over the uplands consists of post oak and black jack of rather small stature with some live oaks and junipers (on rockier sites). In the bottomland, the deciduous oaks were larger and there were elm and pecan trees of good size. Little underbrush in either type. Cattle and goats are kept but grazing appears to be moderate.

I was driven over considerable areas of the ranch by Mr. Aubrey Jameson. At one place where we stopped, near the Leon River (tall post oaks) I heard a titmouse call see-cheyup and located a pair. Although 3 of us in the party were milling around beneath the tree, the one bird sat erect, motionless and flew only when I clapped my hands, its mate flying along with it. Call vet vet vet from perch to S.

Feb 15. COLD; MISTY RAIN intermittent, 8:00 a.m. -  $\pm$  11:00 am harder and steadier thereafter. I drove down to Colony Cr. and started working through deciduous oaks W of creek (these grow in groves of "first bench" in rather close formation. I encountered 2 single birds in woods N of truck, assuming both to be males. (727 was  $\sigma$  but 728,  $\text{f}$ ) The latter was taken E of creek and presumably was not mate of 727. To S of where 728 taken, I ran into pair



Feb 15. 7 mi. S Ranger

in deciduous oaks of area at base of hill to E. I followed them up on to rocky, liveoak-dotted slope and back down to base. I fired at each twice without apparent injury to either. (Visibility poor my aim worse). I worked down to the N bank of the Leon, then W and N at base of hill to W. I located a pair of titmice in S edge of large grove of post oak and fired at one twice with .38's — no damage. I worked S chasing Melanerpes erythrocephalus then N. I located one pair having vocal exchange with pair to S (one I had fired at) and later, birds to N. I took one bird (♀, 729), then chased N, S, N, then watched pair to S, never finding mate of 729 to take him. Working back N, I followed a lone bird, probably the mate of 729 and took it eventually (♂, 730). Mate relationship somewhat tenuous.

Working N past the truck I encountered a pair which had eluded me earlier. I followed these birds, <sup>which were</sup> scolding me. Eventually I fired at one which flew toward the road, mounting into the air to tree-top height, then glided in an arc to S, falling to the ground. I followed its mate, missed a close shot with the .38 near the creek, and followed bird back to woods where ♀ taken. It scolded and crossed over my position, then flew back again across over my head into oak to N



Parus atricristatus

Feb 15. 7 mi. S Ranger, ± 1700 ft., Eastland Co., Texas

I backed off and fired with a .410, breaking bird's manus — it worked up into tree and perched still near trunk. I finished it with .22, then searched for mate of this ♂ (731). I found ♀ in middle of brush pile, standing on ground with feathers fluffed, eyes closed but very much alive. (♀, 732). This must have been after 12:00, since I returned to Ranger in hard rain to find it was 12:45 (I had forgotten my watch).

Call notes heard during the morning included a scold vet-it vet-it vet-it as well as the usual vet vet vet. One characteristic response I witnessed a number of times was for a bird, such as one which had been fired at, to perch on a twig close to the trunk of the tree and remain motionless there. I observed this reaction in at least 3 titmice I can recall as well as the one seen here Feb 14. Titmice generally wary, flushing well out of range on many occasions.

I saved as a skin a titmouse taken by Pete Jameson with #8 shot in a 12-gauge. Many feathers lost plus delay in preparation make for a poor specimen.





K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 19. 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

I proceeded in a generally southerly direction down a tributary to Palo Duro Canyon after 8:00 a.m. CLEAR, CALM. The canyon is steep-sided, carved of massive rocks, and has scattered junipers on its slopes. More junipers may be found on "benches" near the stream level. In one such area, where cottonwoods are scattered along the stream course, I heard the vet vet scold of a ~~town~~ mouse and saw 2 birds in rather closely spaced junipers of east bank. They moved in close to me, then beyond up the stream before I could shift loads. I gave whistle cheer-- and hissed. One bird kept up vet vet and I think it was the other which moved toward me as I hissed. I took this bird ( ♀ ) and started to follow its mate. The latter kept well to cover and I could not locate it, looking into morning sky above shaded bank. Bird moved downstream and began peaver peaver peaver song, weakly at first, then seemingly with more confidence. It started with 3 phrases per song and then 4 and 5. The pitch seemed to me to be higher than that of this song in other ~~town~~ mouse populations. This bird also gave a call see see see aahk, starting out like a "fear" call. It flew across stream to rock on slope to W, then occupied a succession of perches as I followed it. Bird would remain silent, then scold as I approached. I abandoned the chase ~~at~~ 9:15.



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 19 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

I proceeded downstream but heard no more titmice by the time I reached a larger stream flowing in from the NW. This larger canyon was much broader, there being a terrace above the stream often 100 yds wide <sup>on either side.</sup> Junipers grew dense on this bench and there were elms and mesquites (especially the latter) scattered throughout. Cottonwoods in some numbers lined the edge of the stream forming broken rows.

I worked upstream about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile after 10:00 and was scolded by a titmouse as I crossed the stream. This bird was in the cottonwoods and I located it foraging on trunk bark. I fired at it with a .38 and it flew. My second try was with 410 at long range — bird flew, presumably uninjured. I crossed the stream again and worked S toward that wall of this broad canyon. I worked through junipers part way up the slope but heard no titmice and stirred up no response by whistling. I returned to the confluence of the two streams at 12:10 and heard a titmouse call there. I followed the intermittent vocality trying to locate caller. Bird would remain quiet for extended periods, then call at some distance from previous locale.

I finally saw the bird in a cottonwood and fired at it with a  $\frac{1}{2}$  load — it flew N — then I heard scold to NW — same bird. This caller led me a merry chase up N bank, across and down S.



K Dixon  
1952

Parus atricristatus

Feb 19. 17 mi. S Washburn, 3400 ft., Armstrong Co., Texas

It left cottonwoods and went into junipers.

I heard it fly upstream as I stalked it in junipers within 20 yards of bank, but I was unable to locate bird subsequently.

I left the area at 12:25 and retraced my steps up the tributary toward the Harrell ranch house. I heard no titmouse calls and no answer to my whistling in area where bird taken this morning. I noted a row of cottonwoods along the streamcourse here, more than I had remembered earlier and more than in other areas in this canyon. I reached the house at 1:50 p.m.

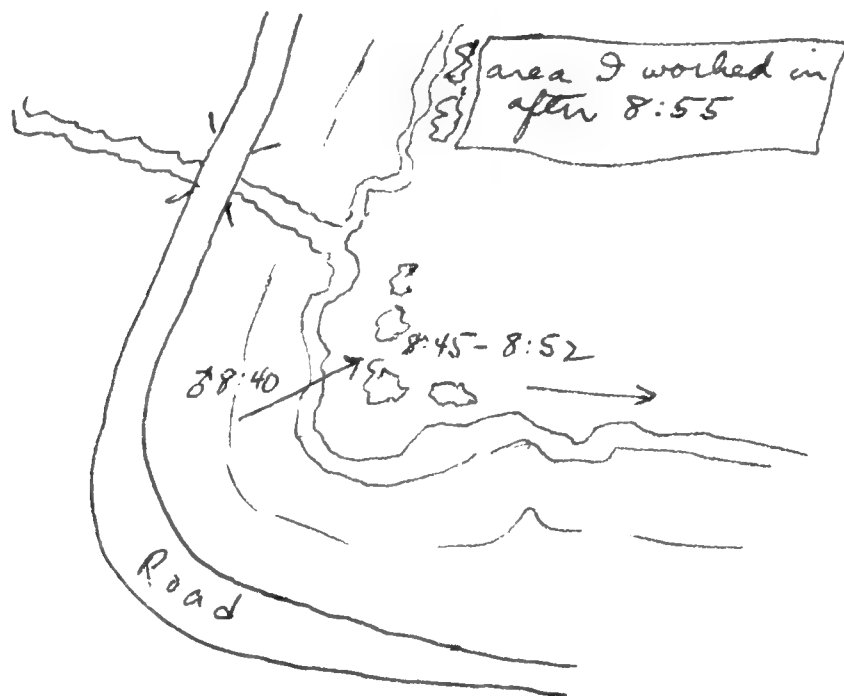


K Dixon  
1952

Zarus atricristatus

Feb 20. Palo Duro Canyon, 13 mi. E Canyon,  $\pm 3400$  ft, Randall Co., Texas

CLEAR, COLD, CALM. Ice on stream although water <sup>after 8:30</sup> running. I walked along stream W of road inside Park. I whistled but heard no ~~tit~~ mice. I followed this tributary under a bridge to the main stream (100 yds). Cottonwoods scattered along this streamcourse - junipers on flat to E. I heard ~~tit~~ mouse singing peer - - - (5 phrases) and located bird in junipers near road. Another ~~tit~~ mouse upslope was answering the song but I could not locate it. First moved to cottonwoods on E side of stream and I watched it as it perched on branches conspicuous, then shifted to another cottonwood. Bird sang steadily for 12 minutes although other stopped after this bird moved into cottonwood. This ~~tit~~ mouse moved along downstream, singing intermittently.



I went upstream  $\pm 200$  yds after 8:55 but located no ~~tit~~ mouse here. I left area after 9:10.





